



Youth Conservation
Corps Summer 2025

Message from our YCC Coordinator



2025 was a highly productive year for the San Juan Islands Youth Conservation Corps. Over the course of our 8-week season, we strengthened existing partnerships, forged exciting new ones, explored new project sites, and—true to form—got our hands good and dirty as we worked to protect and restore the natural beauty of these islands.

We are grateful for the collaboration and support of our community. From partners in the field to family members cheering from home, every person who contributed to this season helped make it a success. This was not without its challenges—weather, remote logistics, and the complexity of new projects tested us—but our crews met every obstacle with determination, adaptability, and heart.

This year saw the continuation of important work begun in 2024, including gorse removal in Olga in collaboration with the San Juan County Noxious Weed Board and native seed collection on Yellow Island with The Nature Conservancy. We also expanded our impact with several new projects: installing beaver dam analogs with the San Juan County Land Bank, preserving cultural heritage through maintenance on the historic Patos Island Lighthouse, and conducting tree ring analysis on Turtleback Mountain for the San Juan Preservation Trust.

We are proud of our 38 crew members, whose commitment, hard work, and growth as conservation leaders will benefit the ecosystems of the San Juan Islands for years to come. Their efforts reflect the power of youth engagement in stewardship and the importance of continued investment in conservation education.

To our partners, donors, board members, and families: thank you. Your support continues to inspire and enable this vital work.

With appreciation,
Mike Rosekrans
Program Coordinator, San Juan Islands YCC

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Who We Are



The San Juan Islands Youth Conservation Corps (YCC) is a summer program that empowers local youth through hands-on conservation work, environmental education, and community engagement. Each season, we bring together teens from across the islands to restore vital habitats, support local land managers, and develop the next generation of environmental stewards.



Through meaningful partnerships with conservation organizations, government agencies, and dedicated mentors, YCC crew members gain real-world skills, deepen their connection to the natural world, and contribute to the long-term health of the San Juan Islands.

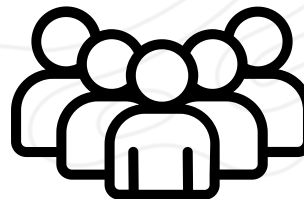


At its core, YCC is about more than just conservation—it's about building confidence, fostering leadership, and inspiring a lifelong ethic of stewardship in our island youth.

"I learned about the invasive weeds and how they encroached on other plants and put them in danger, then I also learned how to remove them. Going to Patos Island was a great experience, it was soooo much fun and a great time all around."

2025 YCC Crew Member

2025 Participants



**38 Crew
Members in
2025**

13 Lopez

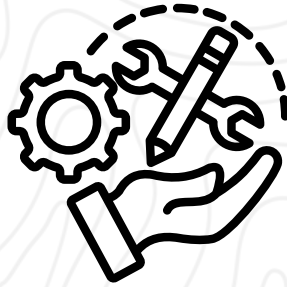
13 San Juan

12 Orcas

2025 Impact on Participants



\$23,750
Stipends Awarded
to Participants



375
Hours of Crew
Member Training



3000
Hours of Environmental
Stewardship Work



1000
Hours of Environmental
Education

2025 Stewardship Impact



"This program is paramount for our youth on the island. It has been truly inspirational to see the growth of the students who are involved in this program and I am excited to see it grow for years to come."

YCC Parent

3,127 hours of service work completed



82 hours beach cleanup



84 hours eelgrass restoration



89 hours riparian restoration



255 hours community events



152 hours LNT training



1389 hours of noxious weed control



128 hours prairie restoration



76 hours fire mitigation



577 hours trail maintenance



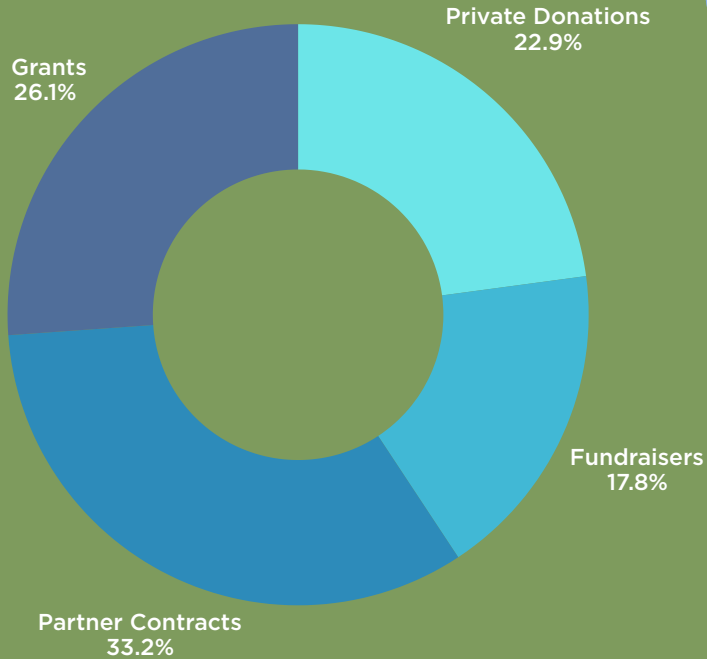
136 hours lighthouse maintenance



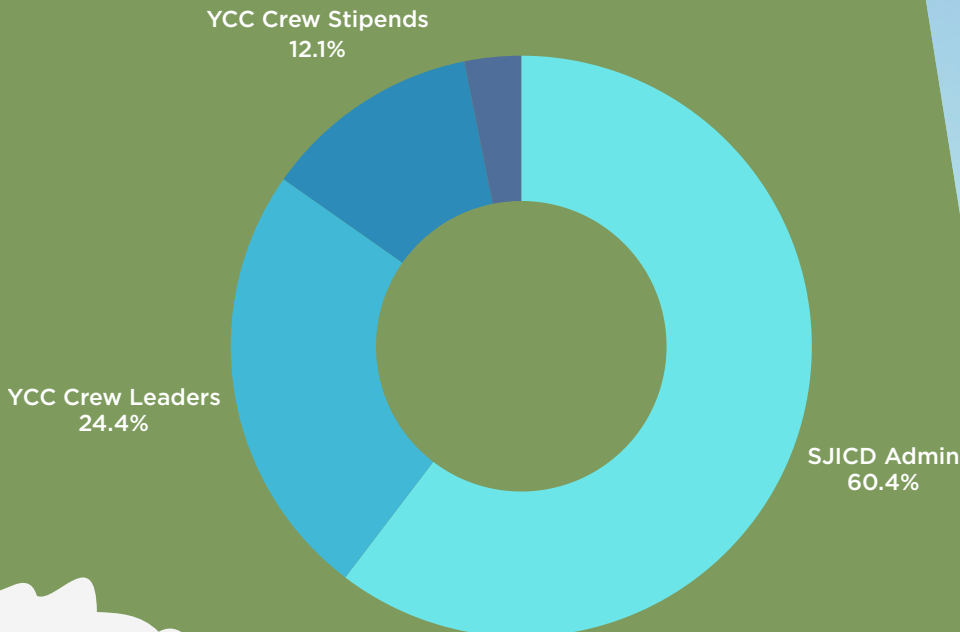
135 hours forest restoration

2025 Financials

Revenues|\$174,866



Expenses|\$188,887



YCC ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Liz Scranton
David Bill
Nick Teague
Chom Greacen

Julie Curtis
Katie Fleming
Erin Licata
Martha Martin

Samantha Martin
Paul Andersson
Kelsey Kittleson
Nancy Ewert



2025 | Project Partners



FEDERAL

Bureau of Land Management
National Park Service
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve

STATE

Washington State Parks
San Juan Islands Conservation District



COUNTY

San Juan County Conservation Land Bank
San Juan County Noxious Weeds Board
San Juan County Parks and Fair
San Juan County Department of Environmental Stewardship

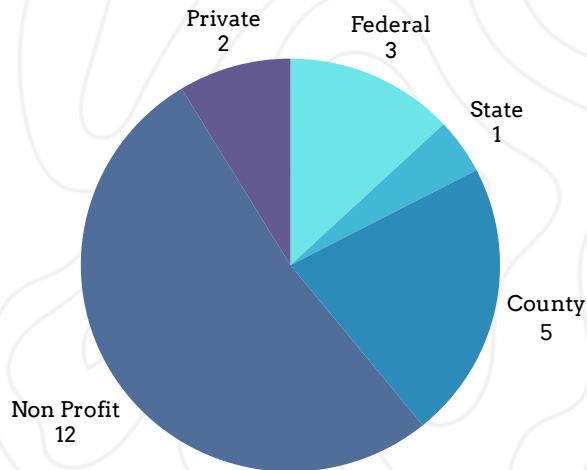
NON-PROFIT

San Juan Preservation Trust
EcoStudies Institute
KWIAHT
OPAL
Keepers of the Patos Lighthouse
San Jual Island Kiwanis Club
Lopez Island Family Resource Center
The Nature Conservancy
Lopez Island Historical Society
Lopez Island Public Library



the
**SAN JUAN
PRESERVATION
TRUST**

Partnerships



- **5 New Partners**

- Keepers of the Patos Lighthouse
- US Fish & Wildlife
- Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve
- Lopez Island Historical Society
- Lopez Library

- **Funding**

- 9 partners provide YCC funding
- 6 Partners provide full funding (30% of project days)



“I wish there was something like YCC for me when I was a kid. This program is an incredible opportunity for kids to get connected to the many multiple organizations with missions in stewardship and conservation. Kids get a chance to see what is out there for careers and the differences they bring between organizations even when the missions overlap.”

Liz Doane,
SJPT

2025 Project Locations

Outer Island/Other

Yellow Island
Patos Island
Matia Island
Henry Island/Kellet Bluff
Padilla Bay National Estuarine
Research Reserve

San Juan

Zylastra Lake
Friday Harbor Labs
Beaverton Marsh
Cady Mountain
American Camp
Limekiln
Red Mill
Ihiya Preserve
Cattle Point
San Juan County
Fairgrounds

Orcas

Moran State Park
Turleback Preserve
Doe Bay
Deer Harbor
North Shore Preserve
JB Farms
Library Park

Lopez

Odlin County Park
Spencer Spit State Park
Iceberg Point
Point Colville
Otis Perkins
Fisherman Bay Preserve
Weeks Wetland
Lopez Island Historical Museum
Beecher Preserve
Lopez Hill
Port Stanley Gravel Pit
Schoolhouse Preserve





Patos Island

SAN JUAN ISLAND



Kellett Bluff



Cady Mountain



Beaverton Marsh



Friday Harbor Laboratories



Red Mill Farm



San Juan County Fairgrounds



Zylstra Lake Preserve



Ihiya Preserve



Limekiln Preserve



San Juan Islands National Historic Site(American Camp)



San Juan Islands National Monument (Cattle Point)



© elizabeth person



Patos Island



Matia Island



2025 Donations

\$15,000 - \$25,000

**San Juan County Conservation Land Bank
LTAC Grant**



\$10,000 - \$15,000

**The Madrona Institute
Washington State Conservation Commission**



**SAN JUAN
PRESERVATION
TRUST**

\$5000 - \$10,000

**San Juan Preservation Trust
San Juan County Noxious Weeds Board**



ECOSTREAMS INSTITUTE
Collaborating to restore native species, their habitats and our relationship to them

\$1000 - \$5000

**OPAL
US Fish and Wildlife Service
Ecostreams Institute
San Juan County Department of Environmental
Stewardship
Lopez Island Family Resource Center**



**COMMUNITY
FOUNDATION
of SAN JUAN ISLAND**



**Lopez Island Family
RESOURCE CENTER**
Serving the entire community at every stage of life

**\$74,500 In Private
Donations**

**We would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to the
many individuals who generously supported the
YCC program this year through private donations.**

**Your contributions make this program possible
and help us continue empowering youth and caring
for the natural spaces we all love. Thank you for
being an essential part of our community!**



**ORCAS ISLAND
COMMUNITY FOUNDATION**



**Washington State
Conservation
Commission**

YCC Winter/Spring Programming



YCC has expanded its programming to provide San Juan Islands youth with year-round opportunities to experience the benefits of YCC. Explore some of the exciting programs we now offer throughout the year below.

LOPEZ

YCC is continuing its collaboration with the Lopez Island Family Resource Center to offer after-school opportunities for middle school students. Participants engage in hands-on stewardship projects at various sites across Lopez Island. Program sessions are held on Tuesdays from 2:00 PM to 5:00 PM.

SAN JUAN

On two weekend days each month from January through March, San Juan Island youth can participate in conservation projects in partnership with Wolf Hollow, BLM, and San Juan County. Participants will earn a \$25 stipend for each day of service while contributing to stewardship efforts across the island.

ORCAS

The Orcas Island School District partners with YCC to bring environmental stewardship into the classroom through Mr. Carter's Outdoor Adventure class. Students take part in hands-on restoration projects at parks and preserves across Orcas Island, with each class completing 2-3 projects per semester.





Looking Forward



Help YCC by ensuring our work can continue

With your support we can equip future YCC crew members with the resources they need to continue their stewardship efforts for year to year

How To Donate:

- By Mail: Send cash or a check (note "YCC" in the memo line") to PO Box 1728, Friday Harbor, 98250
- Choose Your Impact:
 - Contribute to the YCC Endowment Fund for long-term sustainability.
 - Support YCC's current operating budget at SJICD to meet immediate needs.



Full details and additional payment options, including credit card, visit www.sanjuanislandscd.org/donate-to-ycc or follow the QR code.

