



# History behind Valdez Eco-Stewardship Program

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A high-angle, top-down photograph of a group of children sitting in a circle on a dirt ground. They are holding hands, forming a circle. Several children are wearing bright green hard hats. The image is slightly faded and serves as a background for the text.

# Original Program roots

- Washington State University Chelan County 2001
- 4-H Forestry Education Program
  - Primarily “at risk, low-income youth in grade 8-12 in 8 rural communities in Chelan County, Washington.
  - Grant funded for 5 years through the Secure Rural Schools and Communities Self-Determination Act.
    - No Child Left Behind act provided additional funding of program through United States Forest Services.
  - Program has evolved and is still in existence 18 years later



# Original Program roots

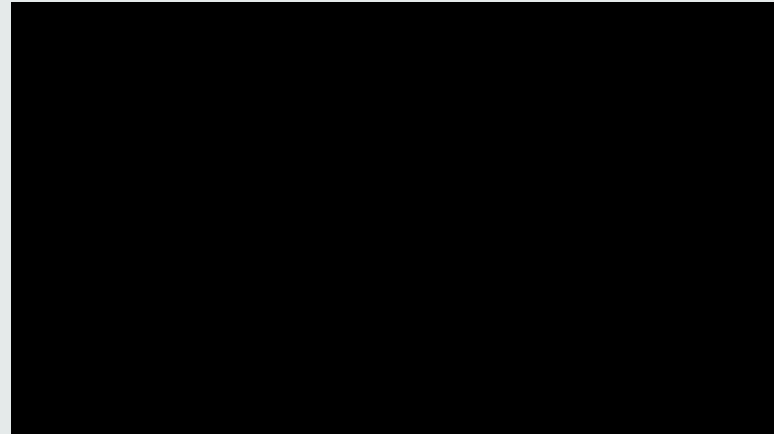
- Nicholas Farline worked for WSU Extension both seasonally & fulltime for over 5 years.
  - Program Leader
  - Experiential Program Coordinator
- Authored 4-H Forestry program of distinction award (attachment #2)
  - All Programs of Distinction contain certain key elements:
    - Exhibit strong program development characteristics
    - Convey new ideas, materials, or innovative methods

# VESP

Valdez Eco-Stewardship Program

Historical (Brain Child):

4-H (Forestry) Eco-Stewardship Program- WSU Chelan  
County





Program is created to develop critical thinking skills necessary for youth to become healthy, productive and knowledgeable members of their communities. It is based on a model that combines experiential education and service learning projects designed to create opportunities for youth engagement as both participants and leaders of the process. Natural resource education is the vehicle to deliver life skill development.

