

13 April 1978

MEMO FOR: RECORD

SUBJECT: Coordination Meeting for Skagit River General Design Memorandum

1. On 30 March 1978, a coordination meeting was held to discuss the Skagit Levee and Channel Improvement study. The purpose of the meeting was to review the scope of work and schedule and discuss the various problems, needs and required action. The following were in attendance:

Robert Frey	Real Estate Division
Vern Cook	Design Branch
Ernest Sabo	F&M Branch
Robert Newbill	F&M Branch
Forest Brooks	Regional Planning Section
Skip Alsop	Regional Planning Section
William McKinley	Regional Planning Section
Don Thompson	Economics and Social Evaluation Section
Jeffrey Mendenhall	Economics and Social Evaluation Section
Dave Orcutt	Economics and Social Evaluation Section
Lance Meyer	Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch
Richard Regan	Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch
Les Soule	Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch
Clyde Jump	Civil Design Section

2. Mr. Brooks summarized some important points from the Mt. Vernon Public meeting of 22 March 1978. First, it is pretty clear from the public meeting that alternatives 4, 5, and 6 are the least desired of all the alternatives and will not be pursued in this study. We will concentrate on alternative 3 which is the authorized project plus higher levees for the cities. At the public meeting, Sedro Woolley made a request for extending the levee improvements upstream to Sedro Woolley. A questionnaire will be sent to the diking and drainage districts for local input on existing levee and drainage system and input is needed from F&M branch in what questions we should ask.

3. Mr. Cook stated that this project will be documented in a combined GDM (Phase I and II) for the project area from Sedro Woolley downstream to Skagit Bay. Construction work will be carried out in several stages, the first of which would be downstream of Mt. Vernon. The portions of the project below Mt. Vernon will be carried to greater level of detail than the remainder of the project. The target is 30 September 1979 for submittal of plans and specifications on the portion below Mt. Vernon to NPD.

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We shall proceed including the area upstream of Mt Vernon in our GDM studies. If proposed legislation on combining the Avon Bypass levees with this project does not pass this year, then we may change our study plans.

4. Several items pertaining to Hydrology and Hydraulics Branch were discussed. A general discussion was held on the river flows we should be considering. It was decided that the following flows should be considered: 1975 flood of 120,000 cfs at Mt Vernon (10 year), and the 50-, 100-, and 500- year ( Standard Project Flood) floods. Due to recent comments from OCE on other projects Mr. Regan felt additional work evaluating sedimentation will be necessary to determine the freeboard required for the levee. Mr. Soule indicated that the new channel sections taken this year compare favorably with the sections taken 18 years ago and showed no major change in channel configuration. However, a sedimentation study will be required to substantiate this. Since Hydraulics has limited experience with this program, up to 6 months may be necessary to perform the sedimentation studies. Mr. Cook brought up a question raised at the recent public meeting concerning the effects of the tide or the height of the levee. Mr. Soule stated there was a problem with ADPC. The programmers down there have a backlog of priority work and this constrains his work and could cause delays.

5. H&H Branch will prepare an estimate of the costs of doing a sedimentation study and the changes to the basic work request required as a result of the meeting. This should be completed by 11 April 1978. The effects of the tide on the floods are being considered as part of their present study. Mr. Soule will verify the unsteady flow computer model using the 120,000 cfs flow and should be completed in about a month. Mr. Cook will look into the problems with ADPC.

6. Economics and Social Evaluation Section was concerned about the schedule shown and needed items from H&H Branch to perform their work. They will proceed with their field work, beginning with Fir Island and working upstream in the agricultural areas. The flow breakout and overflow delineation will require input from F&M Branch. Mr. Thompson stated that economics studies require a lesser degree of accuracy on overflow delineations for farm land than for urban areas. It was agreed that additional surveys for detail topography in agricultural areas will not be necessary, since approximate overflow delineations will be acceptable.

7. Foundation and Materials Branch needs a definite alinement for the levee improvements and extension before they can do their final foundations analysis. Mr. Sabo needs the final alinement as soon as possible. Mr. Newbill is working on a preliminary analysis now.

8. The division of work on project design was discussed by Mr. Cook, Mr. Jump, and Mr. McKinley. Project Planning will layout and prepare quantity estimates of the entire project, both above and below Mount Vernon (map scale will be 1 inch to 400 feet) for the GDM. The GDM will have the usual appendixes and an extra one which will contain Phase II detail for the downstream portion. Mr. Jump in coordination with Mr. Regan will be in charge of developing a scope of work to use in A/E to prepare the layout, quantities, estimates, and drafting (map scale will be 1 inch to 100 feet) for the downstream portion. In April a synopsis should be prepared. In May negotiations with the A/E should be undertaken. In June the A/E should be on board and working. The A/E will require support from District Staff elements to perform his work.

9. Mr. Frey of Real Estate Division brought up an important point regarding the designation of the levee toe on design plans. Sometimes the slope of levee improvements will catch on an existing levee slope. In the past we have shown the limit of real estate as the catch point. This has led to situations where adjacent land owners then excavate to the limit of our construction and undercut the levee. In the future, where our construction limits catches on an existing levee slope, the limit of real estate should be at the toe of the existing levee slope (or the intersection of the new slope and the ground surface).

10. Mr. Cook said that if there are any doubts, questions, problems or constraints on the Skagit project, talk to either Mr. Brooks or himself. Keep checking you schedule, and do whatever it takes to maintain it, even if this means A/E contracts or contracts with other districts. Keep the coordination and communication going. **Skagit River is one of the few projects which we have been given a high priority on by the District Engineers. We will be burned unmercifully if we do not fulfill our obligations.**

11. As a result of the meeting the following actions are necessary:

a. Regional Planning will prepare a questionnaire to send to the Diking and Drainage Districts through the Skagit Flood Control Council concerning the existing drainage and levee systems. Input is needed from F&M Branch and Mr. McKinley. *sent to County on 24 April*

b. Hydraulics and Hydrology Branch will prepare an estimate of the work required due to the changes discussed at the meeting.

c. Civil Design Section will begin preparations for the A/E contract. A scope of work synopsis should be furnished in April 1978.

d. Mr. Cook will look into the problems with programming in ADPC.

e. General coordination will be maintained by everyone involved so that we can be alert to any problems that arise and institute timely solutions.

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NPSEN-PL-RP

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BROOKS

cc:Farrar/Brooks  
McKinley  
Dice/Mettling  
Spurlock/Gardner  
Cook  
MacDonald/Merkle/Regan  
Harnisch/Thompson  
Ward/Sabo/Newbill  
Hanson/Jump  
Frey  
Alsop  
RP file