

## Proposal for BNSF Skagit River Bridge Replacement to Reduce Urban Area Flood Risk

June 2009

### BNSF Skagit River Bridge Replacement:

- **Request: include replacement of this bridge on Council of Governments' priority project list.**
- Built in 1916, this bridge is a hazard to itself and the adjacent levee system. Debris buildup upstream of the bridge in 1995 caused the bridge to fail and almost caused the adjacent left bank levee to fail.
- We believe the bridge is a strong candidate for funding from the \$8 billion Intercity High Speed Passenger Rail program, from which Washington could receive \$400 - \$600 million.
- Bridge replacement is supported by Dike Districts 12, 17, and 1; but not by 3 (left bank downstream of Mount Vernon) or 22 (Fir Island). See other letters of support, attached.



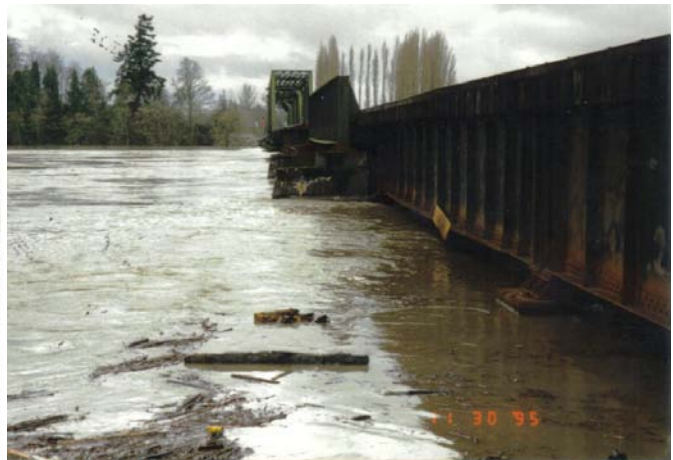
1995 Skagit River Flood – BNSF Bridge looking upstream



1995 Skagit River Flood – BNSF Bridge failure



1994 Debris buildup



1995, near flood peak – Note bottom chord / water surface