

JUL 1965

Mr. Claude B. Wilson
Chairman, Board of Skagit County Commissioners
County Court House
Mount Vernon, Washington

Dear Mr. Wilson:

By this time you have received from the Division Engineer, North Pacific Division, the public notice for the Report on Flood Control and Other Improvements, Skagit River, Washington. I am pleased to inclose two copies of this report for your use.

The report is now under review by the Board of Engineers for Rivers and Harbors in the Office, Chief of Engineers. If approved by the Board and the Chief of Engineers, the report will be transmitted to the Secretary of the Army and thence to the Congress for authorization.

I believe completion of the report is an important first step in the development of a comprehensive flood control plan for the Skagit River basin. The improvements recommended, in combination with the authorized Avon Bypass, would provide more than 35-year protection for nearly all of the flood plain downstream from Sedro Woolley, Washington. As part of our continuing comprehensive studies for the Skagit River basin, we hope to develop a plan that will ultimately provide 100-year flood protection for the basin flood plain.

Our FY-1966 program, in addition to initiating preconstruction planning studies of the Avon Bypass project, will include preliminary feasibility studies of developing multi-purpose upstream storage and of providing flood protection for the Nookachamps Creek area and the area upstream of Sedro Woolley. In the event feasibility for one or more of these alternatives appears favorable, more detailed studies will be initiated in the latter part of the fiscal year, and continued through FY-1967.

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Mr. Claude B. Wilson

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We are well aware that the Skagit River basin has outstanding potential for many water resource developments, including recreation, fisheries, hydropower, water supply, low flow augmentation and others, in addition to flood control. The basin also has many areas which are ideal for wild river and wilderness areas. All of these potentials are being considered as part of the Puget Sound and Adjacent Waters Comprehensive Study presently underway by some 30 Federal and State agencies under the auspices of the Columbia Basin Inter-Agency Committee. These studies will be finalized in 1969, and at that time a framework plan for optimum water resource development of the entire Puget Sound region will be formulated. Present Corps of Engineer studies for the Skagit River basin are completely in accord with this goal.

We will keep you informed of progress on our studies. Please feel free to comment on the inclosed report. We would be pleased to provide you with any assistance we can, should you have questions or desire additional information on our Skagit River studies.

Sincerely yours,

S. J. BLAIR
Major, Corps of Engineers
Deputy District Engineer

1 Incl (dup)
As stated

Copy furnished: w/o Incl
Lloyd Johnson
Skagit County Engineer

cc: Bechly

Skrinde *RAJ*

Gedney *RAJ*

Steinborn

~~MAJ. BLAIR~~
Exec Ofc /s/

MaitRm *EF*
also = 14 Jul 65

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