

**From:** [Johnson, Daniel E NWS](#)  
**To:** [Chang, Margaret NWS](#); [Kara E. Symonds](#)  
**Cc:** ["danb@co.skagit.wa.us"](mailto:danb@co.skagit.wa.us); [Hadley, Hannah F NWS](#); [Brown, Keely N NWS](#)  
**Subject:** FW: Save the Nookachamps  
**Date:** Friday, May 11, 2012 8:21:41 AM

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An e-mail for our comments.

/r  
Dan

Daniel E. Johnson  
Project Manager  
Civil Programs and Projects Branch  
Seattle District, US Army Corps of Engineers  
[REDACTED]  
daniel.e.johnson@usace.army.mil

-----Original Message-----

From: Robert Dow [REDACTED]  
Sent: Thursday, May 10, 2012 2:08 PM  
To: Johnson, Daniel E NWS  
Cc: [REDACTED]  
Subject: Save the Nookachamps

Daniel,

Thank you for your presentation on Skagit River flood alternatives. I was the fellow who introduced himself as 4th generation Nookachamps. I think like many Skagitonians I am skeptical of the ability to move forward on flood control measures in a timely and cost effective manner. At the same time I feel like every year is a roll of the dice in terms of the probability of a major event. Obviously, given the many different stakeholders everyone will look at those options that are the best alternative for their individual situation. With regard to the Nookachamps my concern is our lack of representation. While the various dike districts have moved forward with major improvement projects the Nookachamps remains fair game in terms of taking overflow. My grandfather built our house to be above the 100 year flood mark. However, with changes to the river, lack of action on river control, and development along the boulevard I believe that my home is now at risk. I fully understand cost/benefit ratios but I also cannot help but feel betrayed by my government (federal, state and local) when new big-box stores are felt to be more important than a family that has lived in the valley for over 100 years. That said, I understand that if you had the "magic wand" of flood control you would probably wave it today.

My real reason for writing was to express my concern over lack of representation and to offer my services if you ever need a tour guide for the Nookachamps basin. I love the area and as odd as it may seem I even like the flood plain (no condos next to me!). What I don't want to see is a plan that puts excessive water on a single area to protect special interests who have the money and power. I appreciate your taking the time to listen to my concerns. Please let me know if I may be of service.

Regards,

Bob Dow