

From: [Elaine Wright](#)
To: [NWS-Skagit-River-GI](#)
Subject: [EXTERNAL] Public Comment
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When I first saw the Army Corps of Engineers proposal, I was reminded of "The Three Little Pigs", except the government didn't step in and knock down the third pig's house to protect the first two pig's homes.

When we moved to Skagit County 27 years ago, we moved to Sedro Woolley. When we decided to build quality Built Green homes we chose Sedro Woolley because it is a wonderful community and it the area doesn't flood. We have nine properties in Sedro Woolley, seven are on Dunlop Avenue. This area has never flooded; if the proposed levies go in, they will flood. We will have to purchase flood insurance for all the houses. We will have to raise the rent to cover our additional costs, which will reduce the number of people who can afford the rent. In addition, forcing our property into the flood area will reduce their market values. Had the property been in a flood area, we would probably never built the houses. If we had decided, against all good sense, to go ahead with the project, we would have certainly considered flood elevations and flood mitigation measures prior to construction.

The building that will be protected in Burlington have mostly been built in the last 30 years. The area of Sedro Woolley that the Corps proposes turning into flood area, has many small older homes that have never flooded. It is my opinion that the owners of the buildings in Burlington should take the risk for building in a flood area, not the people who had the good sense to build or purchase homes in an area that never floods. Why should the few poorer people of Sedro Woolley have to pay the price for the not so smart richer people who built in a flood area?

I live on Buchanan Lane in Clear Lake. When it floods, I can't use the Swan Road. The proposed levies will isolate the hill and everyone that lives on it. I will be unable to get to work in Sedro Woolley, except by boat. I prepare payrolls for approximately 200 people. They will be without their paychecks.

Many of my neighbors are quit old. One of my neighbors, who has lived on the hill for 70 plus years, told me that he has been trapped on the hill one day in all the years he has lived there. That will change with the proposed levies. They will be isolated from emergency medical services.

The social and financial costs of the proposed levies to the residents of Sedro Woolley and Clear Lake are astronomical. It is clear to me that these small communities were never considered. This proposal is not a good idea. There has to be a better alternative.

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Elaine Wright