From: <u>Elisabeth Waldron</u>
To: <u>NWS-Skagit-River-GI</u>

Subject: [EXTERNAL] Skagit Valley Levy"s

Date: Thursday, July 17, 2014 11:39:49 AM

Hello Hannah Hadley,

I am writing in regards to the tentatively selected plan of putting levy's in Mt. Vernon and Burlington. This plan is not an "improvement" plan but a complete plan of destruction and devastation to Skagit Valley. This plan will not help with the flooding but make the flooding worse. It could possibly destroy the entire western Skagit Valley in many ways since the areas where it could flood are highly populated with businesses, schools, homes, farm land ect.

If levy's are put in Mt. Vernon and Burlington and the water backs up and floods Sedro-Woolley and surrounding areas in the valley peoples homes, property's, business's would be destroyed. The Sedro-Woolley School District has 4 Elementary schools that will be effected, Big Lake, Clear Lake, Central, and Mary Purcell. If it were to flood during the school year they would have to cancel school for a long time. After the flooding would go down it would take a long time for those schools to be properly cleaned so the kids could return to school. The school year should not be interrupted by a flood. Kids need to be in school. Business's would have to close and would not reopen for along time until those were cleaned. How would an entire valley and millions of people prepare if they were told they had to evacuate due to flooding!? Skagit Valley and the City of Sedro-Woolley would be devastated.

If flooding does not occur that bad then almost the entire western Skagit Valley would be forced to pay flood insurance. That includes Schools that would be effected when that money should stay in the schools for the kids. Business's would also have extra expenses that would hinder them from growing as a business. Flood insurance is expensive and many people will not be able to afford it. I do not believe we should be forced by anyone to pay for something we do not want to pay for. The people who live in the City of Sedro-Woolley choose to live here because IT DOES NOT FLOOD HERE and we do not have to pay flood insurance. Extra expenses like that could make the Skagit Valley fall into an economic collapse.

I don't believe the people who are in charge of the decision making are taking all these possibilities into consideration and if they are they don't care about people. If these parts of Skagit Valley do not flood now then LEAVE THE RIVER ALONE!! PUTING UP THESE LEVY'S IS THE WORST THING THAT COULD COME TO THIS VALLEY!!

HAVE A HEART AND CARE MORE ABOUT PEOPLES LIVES!!! I hope that the people of the Skagit Valley rise up and speak out against the levy's. I pray this tentative selected plan to put up levy's is defeated and stopped for the well being of the Skagit Valley and it's residents!!

Thank you.

THE LORD IS KING FOREVER AND EVER; THE LORD SHALL BE KING OVER ALL THE EARTH. PS10:16/ZECH14:9