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Skagit Soit District Helps Farmers in Drainage Plans

Supervisors of the Skagit Soil | plan to "make the dirt fly" on 3750 lineal feet of open ditch construction on the Curt Wiles place, on the East Fork of Nookachamps Creek. Jack Turner, of Bow, has been engaged to complete the project with his power shovel. The drainage lob is one of several in progress under the sponsorship and technical guidance of the Skagit District.

Wiles, a cooperator with the soil conservation district, received technical help from district engineers in planning and staking the ditch line, as a feature of his conservation land use farm plan. This individual job is part of a group engineering plan which ultimately may include 25 or more farmers in the East Nookachamps area. Several miles of ditch excavation will be needed to rehabilitate this important Skagit county stream. The Nookachamps drainage district is considering the supplementing of district. the system with connecting ditches | which will increase the drainage age assistance to farmers coopervalue of the work.

East Fork of Nookachamps Conservation District this week creek is well known to local people because of the aggravated drainage problem present. Logs coming down stream during earlier logging days clogged up the stream and became compacted and then silted in, until today the stream bed runs about three feet above the level of the surrounding territory. The long time drainage program to be worked out by the Skagit Soil Conservation District not only will benefit individual farmers and the general area, but also should help restore fish populations in this obstructed stream.

> The overall engineering survey under consideration by the supervisors, if approved, will make possible a preliminary survey by district engineers. Such a survey will indicate possibilities for group action on this important drainage problem and should be a material incentive in enlisting the cooperation of local landowners with the

> Other recent examples of drain-(Continued on Page 6)

SKAGIT SOIL PLANS HELP DRAIN FARMS

(Continued from Page 1) ating with the Skagit district include the Mud Lake project, which involved the blasting by dynamite of about three quarters of a mile of open ditch. 1000 feet of open ditch recently was installed on Sig Omdahl's farm, with the help of the Jack Turner shovel, and has aided drainage materially. Work on the upper Samish is almost ready to begin and several farmers will join in the work and share its benefits.

On all of these jobs district engineers prepared plans and specifications and gave technical help in installing the systems. Other similar help in agronomy and pasture management was included in the overall land use plan developed for each farm by the district supervisors and the technical men of the Soil Conservation Service.