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PO Box 532  
La Conner, WA 98257  
March 16, 2009

Mr. Bob Boudinot, Chair  
Skagit County Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan  
1800 Continental Pl.  
Mount Vernon, WA 98257

Dear Mr. Boudinot:

I respectfully request that the Environmental Technical Committee be tasked to review their findings regarding Measure #35 – La Conner, based on the following facts:

1. Regardless of the Corps' label, this project has consistently been called: "Gap Filler". In a meeting with Col. Wright, it was made clear that the objective is to replace the approximately 1,700 lineal feet of levee that was removed in the early 1970's, and rebuild the spoils left from dredging an additional 1,100 ft. The Town Council does not envision building a new ring dike around La Conner.
2. There is no "rock armoring" to be removed.
3. This is not a "riverine" environment. The Corps study of 1984 described "ponding" as the primary flood threat.
4. Restoration of Sullivan Slough is not connected with, or mandated by, this project. The Slough will remain healthy and very productive and protective for salmonids.
5. There is no defined fish habitat in the Drainage District #15 ditch. The proposed dike will be constructed more than ten feet away from the top of the ditch.
6. The proposed dike, with 7.1 ft. height and 52.66 ft. wide base, meets all three of the basic criteria and will be built to FEMA standards.

If more detailed information on Measure #35 is needed, please let Mayor Hayes know.

Sincerely,



Dan O'Donnell