

21 February 1978

MEMO FOR: RECORD

SUBJECT: Skagit River Levee and Channel Improvements - Meeting with
Dike and Drainage District Commissioners

1. On 8 February 1978, at the request of Skagit County, Mr. Vern Cook, Mr. Forest Brooks, Mr. Ernie Sabo, and Mr. Bob Frey attended a meeting in Mount Vernon of the Dike and Drainage District Commissioners and the Skagit Conservation District Board members. The purpose of the meeting was to re-activate the Skagit County Flood Control Council which has been inactive for several years and to discuss the Corps of Engineers Levee and Channel Improvement project. Lloyd Johnson, Skagit County Engineer, served as a temporary chairman and Mr. Howard Miller, County Commissioner, Mr. Bud Norris, County Commissioner, were present part-time. Discussions centered on how the Districts could best reconstitute the inactive flood control organization. A nominating committee was selected with members to be from the Districts most affected by the Levee and Channel Improvements Project (1, 2, 3, 12, 13, 15, and 17). They also decided to include the Conservation Districts in the organization and, after they reorganized, to invite the towns to participate.
2. After the organizational activities were finished, Mr. Vern Cook presented an explanation of the present status of the Skagit Levee and Channel Improvement Project, and a proposed construction schedule. He mentioned that the Skagit had now progressed into the advance engineering and design phase. This involves studies to either reconfirm the project recommended in the feasibility report, or reformulate it to present needs, and then to perform design of the project. The Skagit project is in the second year of this phase and we are scheduled to complete a report in the spring of 1979. The first construction, probably on the downstream portion of the project, should be underway in the summer of 1980. Any additional construction which is recommended from Mount Vernon upstream would probably then be built during 1981 and 1982. After this presentation Vern answered several questions concerning the project. These involved: legislation which is currently proposed in Congress to extend the authority for the project upstream to Sedro Woolley, using set back dikes, dredging the river channel, the basin flood control plan, funding source, local responsibilities, the actions the diking districts should take this summer to repair their dikes, and the status of the Avon Bypass project.
3. After the questions, Mr. Bob Frey discussed the probable real estate requirements for the project. He said that now would be a very good time for the county to begin finding out what easements rights-of-way and property that they already possess and what possible pieces of land they will need in the future. They should probably begin the acquisition of this needed property as soon as feasible so that when the Corps is prepared to go to construction in 1980, they will have all the necessary lands easements and rights-of-way.

Brooks
BROOKS

cc:

Brooks	Cook	
RP file	Frey	E&SE
	Sabo	Mottling

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