

## **MEMO FOR FOREST**

### **SUBJECT: MEETINGS ON SKAGIT FLOOD CONTROL STUDY.**

This is only a partial memo on two meetings (1) held in Burlington in the morning and (2) with Skagit Co. etal in the County Hearing room in the afternoon on the 4/17/96.

Burlington meeting:

Attached is the attendance list for this meeting.

The important items that came out of the meeting as far as I was concerned are as follows;

Mayor Gus Tjeerdsma a long time resident of Burlington is very committed to do what he can to provide leadership in reducing flood damages in his town. He recognizes that Burlington will probably never get 100year level of protection and is willing to settle for good flood warning and evacuation planning and improved drainage to remove the flood waters as soon as possible.

Margaret Fleek, Planner for Burlington recommended a plan to provide a set back levee system along the Skagit River at Burlington to provide a second line of defense and to allow for some valley storage of flood waters. This second levee would allow the water to pond if the river front levee was overtopped, this pondage could reduce the flood crest height for a time and provide a time for residents of Burlington to protect their property from an impending flood and evacuate. The filling of this "valley storage" could be either by overtopping of the river levee or by opening an inlet structure to allow a more controlled filling. The plan also involved the improvement of conveyance of wate in Gages Slough. After much discussion a concensus was reached that Gages Slough would be used to convey local runoff and would not accommodate salmon. The plan was to improve the culverts and road crossings to provide for 800 cfs flow.

Skagit County meeting:

The following the expectations of the attendees;

- Dave Brookings-Need
1. A well thought out plan of attack
  2. A solid hydraulic model to use for decision making
  3. A feasibility study leading to a single plan.
  4. A 3 year study
  5. A study cost of \$2.5 to \$3.0 M.
  6. To consider the entire basin and proritize needs.
  7. Goals for flood protection.
  8. To meet FCAAP requirements.

- Larry Wasserman-
1. Complete the fisheries scoping.
  2. Protection of urban area and 25yr protection for ag lands.
  3. Better flood warning.
  4. Accommodate the Cooperative in an assistance role.
  5. Focus the ecosystem study in the lower basin.

Dan Eisses (Pub Works City of Mt Vernon)

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| John Thompson                             | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Consider up river community needs.</li> <li>2. Design the model to predict changes caused by logging debris, erosion, and sedimentation.</li> <li>3. Make the model easy to update with current conditions.</li> </ol>   |
| John Wiseman                              | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Separate into segments so parts can be developed independently.</li> <li>2. Look at relocation of highway 20.</li> <li>3. Look at incorporating other purposes such as recreation trails.</li> </ol>   |
| Gus Tjeerdsma                             | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Look at up river communities.</li> <li>2. Identify weak points in the levee system.</li> </ol>   |
| Leonard Halvarson<br>from                 | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Strawberry Bar represents blockage-cut cottonwood trees the strawberry bar.</li> <li>2. Replace cottonwood trees along the system with spruce for fish benefit.</li> <li>3. Steerling and Nookachamps need to address low water areas.</li> <li>4. Bottleneck for small floods is above RR bridge</li> </ol> |
| Harvey Waldon, Skagit County Commissioner | <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. 3 year study</li> <li>2. Consider up river communities.</li> <li>3. Don't recommend a project so large it requires a vote of the citizens of Skagit Co- stay within the limit of the Commissioner's authority.</li> </ol>  |

We decided that the model was the next scoping priority and agreed to meet in Mt Vernon on 14 May to discuss the design of a model for the basin. We made a list of expectations for the model with the understanding that all expectations would not be met, but all would be considered and we would attempt to cost out each option.

Steve Foster 4/17/96