



FEMA

May 25, 2006

Kelley Moldstad, Executive Director
Skagit County Council of Governments
204 W. Montgomery
Mount Vernon, Washington 98273

Dear Mr. Moldstad:

The purpose of this letter is to provide a status update of the ongoing Skagit River Flood Insurance Study (FIS) being conducted by the Department of Homeland Security's Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA). I am informing the Council of Governments of our progress because it is an established forum that contains all of the affected community partners.

At this time, we are nearing completion of the initial work maps covering the floodplain extending along the Skagit River from Sedro Woolley downstream to the bay. The work, being accomplished by the United States Army Corps of Engineers, will be received by FEMA and will follow our standard protocol which requires a FEMA review before the study is endorsed by this agency.

I do not wish to see information that may change released prematurely, nor do I wish to cause unnecessary delays. Several interested parties have requested that the release of the data be delayed while others have asked for an early release of the study results. FEMA intends to make the model and its results available to interested parties once our internal technical review is complete. At that time, members of my staff will arrange to meet with local officials and this council to discuss the next steps and receive feedback.

Comments or questions regarding this letter should be directed to Ryan Ike at the address above, or by calling (425) 487-4767.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Carl L. Cook, Jr.", written over a white background.

Carl L. Cook, Jr., Director
Mitigation Division

cc: The Office of Senator Patty Murray
The Office of Senator Maria Cantwell
The Office of Congressman Rick Larsen
Charles L. Steele, Department of Ecology, Bellevue

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