

FLOOD CREST OF SKAGIT REACHED; RECEDING TODAY

The swirling waters of the Skagit river, after having reached a flood crest of 21.6 feet here at 6 p. m. last night, are rapidly receding today, apparently eliminating for the time being at least, the threat of major flood in this area.

The river, swollen by four days of almost incessant rainfall, spilled over onto farmlands in several sections Saturday night and Sunday morning and blockaded travel in many spots.

Families Marooned

Several families in the Day Creek area today are marooned as the Gilligan Creek bridge washed out completely Saturday and the Lyman ferry, that provided the only other outlet for some 50 families, sunk after having been covered with debris from the rushing river. The 240-foot wooden trestle over Gilligan Creek, weakened by several days of rain, collapsed Saturday.

Efforts are being made today by county road crews to open a logging bridge below the destroyed bridge for foot traffic until it can be put in shape for vehicular travel.

All of the ferries crossing the Skagit river were grounded today and will not be operated during the high water period. School children residing on the south side of the river in the Day Creek, Lyman and Concrete districts are unable to attend school today.

The state secondary highway 17-A running east to Concrete was under water at several places Saturday night, with a detour necessary near Hamilton. Travel today was opened on the road but traffic proceeded slowly in at least three places where swollen streams crossed the highway.

Trucks Overturn

Four trucks of the Douglas Fir Logging company at Day Creek overturned and were partially covered with silt due to a sudden freshet in that area.

Several acres of farmland between Mount Vernon and Sedro-Woolley were covered with water Sunday morning but a fortunate turn in the weather prevented what easily could have been a disastrous flood.

The river had receded to 19 feet at 8 a. m. today at Mount Vernon and is reported to be dropping rapidly.

A total of 1.29 inches of rainfall fell in this area over the weekend, according to reports maintained at the county engineer's office.