

COUNTY COMMISSIONERS' STATEMENT MARCH 22, 1978

We would like to express our appreciation to the Corps of Engineers for holding this hearing tonight. We are pleased with the progress of the study to date.

Past floods have caused wide-spread damage to the valley lands and urban areas in Skagit County. We know that a major flood such as has occurred would today be catastrophic, causing extensive damage to property and endangering the lives of our citizens in the flood plain. Flood protection is urgently needed to protect the Skagit Valley and the urban areas containing cities and towns in Skagit County.



The development in the urban areas of Skagit County, together with the sophisticated farming development in Skagit County are in no way compatible with flooding of the area.

We have reviewed the alternatives presented in the brochure and strongly support Alternative 3 for early construction as a minimum measure for providing flood protection for the lower valley and the urban areas up to and including Sedro Woolley. However, we would like Alternatives 4, 5 and 6 to be maintained as options for possible future additional flood protection measures.

Skagit County will provide necessary local cooperation for any flood protection measures. We want to work very closely with the Corps and assist in any way we can to help to expedite the completion of the levees.