H't H Design MFR

Walker

$CENWS - EN - HH - HE$ May 2011

SUBJECT: Skagit River PL 84-99

1. INTRODUCTION

NWS is engaged in repair work for multiple levees on the Skagit River in Skagit County. Levees scheduled for repair in summer 2011 are listed in Table 1. All sites were damaged during the November 2006 storm that produced a peak discharge of 145,000 cfs and had a return interval of between 10 and 25 years. Table 2 lists levee sites that will have habitat mitigation work completed in summer 2011 to offset environmental impacts from repair work completed in 2007.

Table 1. Skagit River Levee Repair Sites

Table 2. Skagit River Levee Mitigation Sites

Some of the above sites are proposed to include LWD structures to provide environmental benefit and habitat to mitigate the direct impacts of construction. These sites can be found below in Tables 3 and 4 for repair and mitigation sites respectively.

Table 4. Skagit River LWD Mitigation Sites HEC RAS info

The Skagit River levees protect tens of thousands of people and large amounts of very high value infrastructure and commercial development. While it would be beneficial to have all Skagit River levees provide a 100-year flood protection, all the levees in this repair were designed at the

25-year flood protection level. Ownership and maintenance of the levee systems is divided between numerous Diking Districts. Sites listed in Tables 1 and 2 are identified by Diking Districts, then a corresponding site number. Emergency repair for the damaged levees will return each levee to the 25-year protection level, and does not include upgrading levees to obtain FEMA certification.

Skagit River Diking Districts requested NWS to include vegetation plantings at all sites and LWD at some of the repair sites. This request has been strongly supported by NWS ERS. The LWD and vegetation would serve as fish habitat, and will ensure approval of environmental documentation for the repairs.

NWS HE has concerns about including LWD in the levee prism, due to possible levee stability issues, and has designed LWD anchor systems that are removed from the levee prism. Other potential concerns with LWD placement include LWD anchor stability, additional scour created by flow turbulence near LWD and anchors and increased flood elevation problems. The Corps has design standards for levees and revetments, but not for LWD structures. A search of other agency design guidance found some for LWD structures, but very little for combined riprap/LWD structures. The U.S. Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service guidance (2007) cites limited long-term performance information and states that LWD structures incorporated into revetment are not suited for situations where failure would endanger human life or critical infrastructure. Washington's "Integrated Streambank Protection Guidelines" (2002) suggests log jams be placed off the rock face to avoid jeopardizing rock placement and bank protection.

HE's LWD design work has been closely coordinated with Civil/Soils to insure the best possible design. The criteria HE adopted for LWD and the designs for the levee repairs are described below.

2. DESIGN CRITERIA

The Skagit River has been confined by levees for a majority of the $20th$ century, and designs for levee cross sections in the lower floodplain have been utilized for other flood repairs. NWS Civil/Soil section supplied designs for levee repairs to be constructed in 2011. The H&H engineering criteria for the levee repairs included configuration and anchoring of the LWD, design of a small groin / rock ramp and flood elevation impacts from the above structures. The overriding principle of this design process was to provide a safe levee that will protect the people and property in the Skagit River valley.

Bank Protection

Bank protection criteria are described in EM 1110-2-1601, Hydraulic Design of Flood Control Channels (1994). Scour protection at the toe was not investigated since repairs were authorized under the PL 84-99 criteria, and repair / replace in kind without modifications or upgrades to the levee. Riprap size has been specified by civil/soils section based on prior repairs on the Skagit

River, and will utilize matching designs to repair in kind. At sites where LWD is included in the designs, scour analysis was completed since these are now changed conditions.

LWD

Design considerations for incorporating LWD with rock revetments include direct and indirect factors. Direct factors include the environmental benefits, the overall configuration of the LWD structure, the anchoring system, and the potential interaction of the LWD with the revetment. Indirect factors include upstream water surface increases and possible geomorphic changes to the river.

The environmental benefits of LWD in the Skagit River are to provide cover and slow water habitat for fish, especially salmonid species. There were no specific hydraulic requirements, such as depth under the LWD or water velocities, provided for design. A diverse or non-uniform habitat, such as placing LWD at different elevations along the levee, was suggested by some biologists. Anchoring LWD along the edge of water during summer low flows provides cover and slow water habitat.

The configuration of LWD structures could range from a single piece to multi-layer log jams. Large, complex LWD structures are not suitable in the confined channel of the lower Skagit River. LWD has been incorporated at a few levees on the Green River by both King County, and by NWS levee repairs. Designs have ranged from individual logs with long chains to 3 log "rafts" that are permanently anchored at the landward side. The configuration recommended by biologists for the Skagit River was a double layer of logs anchored near the toe of the levee. This will provide cover and habitat for aquatic species during a range of flows from summer low flows to flood events. The potential range of movement generates a variety of forces and actions that must be accounted for in the design. Minimizing the range of movement, and thus forces, was an important reliability consideration in choosing the overall configuration of the LWD.

The anchoring system must hold the LWD securely and not interfere with function of the revetment. In a static condition, the anchor must resist buoyant and drag forces created by the LWD and anchor. However, if the LWD can move, it could generate dynamic forces that can be many times higher than the original static forces. Previous designs by King County have incorporated large rocks buried within the levee toe, however this is direct interaction with the revetment, and is not recommended. The anchoring system also must remain functional over the long term.

Potential water surface increases due to LWD were included in the flood elevation analysis described below. LWD would only be placed where it was not expected to cause stability problems elsewhere along the channel.

Flood Elevations

The potential impacts to 100-year flood elevations must be considered during the design. USACE is not strictly held to the FEMA no-rise requirements, but must provide an evaluation of the water surface impacts. USACE is not required to use FEMA's Flood Insurance Study models

4

to analyze the 100-yr flood profile, if we believe our model accurately represents the river. For this study, NWS used a Skagit River General Investigation (GI) HEC RAS model that accurately represents the river. Our analysis needs to show that the repairs are not causing an increase in water surface or, if an increase occurs, that the impacts have been minimized.

3. DESIGN RESULTS

H&H has worked closely with Civil/Soils to arrive at designs that meet the above engineering and environmental criteria. The general approach was to design a safe levee repairs and add LWD where practical, with minimal risk to the levee.

Bank Protection

Bank protection criteria are described in EM 1110-2-1601, Hydraulic Design of Flood Control Channels (1994). Scour protection at the toe was not investigated at non-LWD repair sites because the authority of repairs is to repair in kind. Riprap size has been specified by civil/soils section based on prior repairs on the Skagit River, and will utilize a 3' blanket of class IV riprap. Safety factors calculated from EM 1110-2-1601 equation 3-3 ranged from 1.7 to 2.3 for a selection of cross sections at the 25 year event.

Since LWD incorporation deviates from in kind repairs, scour protection was investigated at these sites to account for uncertainties such as construction methods, local scour and flow turbulence. In addition, all LWD sites will incorporate class V riprap. Scour calculations included equations Rice for longitudinal scour and Richardson for pier scour. Table 5 contains the estimated scour potential for sites that include LWD in the repairs. Hydraulic depth of the cross section was used in all equations, and approach depth was subtracted from the scour depth to result in scour potential. Approach depth was measured from RAS cross sections as the distance to the bed at the LWD placement to the 25 year WSE. Longitudinal scour was chosen as the most conservative estimate of the scour depth, and was used for the designs.

Table 5. Scour Calculations

 NR $Real d = No$ $Rock$ R equired

Required launchable toe volumes were calculated based on the minimum riprap size that provides adequate bank protection (Class II provides a minimum safety factor of 2.1 for the repair sites). However, since repairs are being constructed with Class V riprap, the additional blanket volume provided by the larger rock compensates for a portion of rock volume required

per method D in EM 1110-2-1601. At site 17-6, a launchable toe volume was calculated, however the additional rock provided by the class V blanket negates the need for a launchable toe volume to be included in the designs. Site 1-3 is on the inside of a bend, and covers a total length of 75 feet. Additional excavation and transitions to provide a launchable toe for such a short repair site does not make the extra effort worthwhile, and would provide only slight benefits due to the small volume of riprap required.

Sites 12-9 and 22-7 have deep scour holes at the toe, and will be filled with an additional volume of class V riprap to provide a launchable toe. The remaining slope will be regraded to the design 2:1 H:V before the protection blanket of class V riprap is installed.

At sites 3-5, 3-6 and 3-8, the low velocities did not predict scour from occurring and therefore do not require a launchable toe. Furthermore, this was investigated for class IV riprap, which is predicted to provide a safety factor of over 100:1 due to the low velocities and flow depths. At these locations, repairs will be constructed with class IV riprap to match other repair sites under this authorization.

The habitat groin to be constructed at 17-16 was also investigated for scour potential by the Froehlich abutment scour equation. Results matched well with the Rice longitudinal scour estimates, and an average was compared to the approach depth. The full length of the repair site will use class V riprap for both bank protection and groin construction. Stability analysis using equation 3-3 in EM 1110-2-1601 estimates a safety factor of 7.7 using a velocity coefficient of 1.5, and 5.8 with a velocity coefficient of 2.0. Rock stability using momentum forces and the weight of the rock were also completed to ensure long term stability of the structure.

LWD

Environmental and engineering factors were considered in the configuration of the LWD pieces. The LWD will consist of 20 ft long logs, with an average 5' rootball and will be placed along the edge of the natural channel. Large anchor rocks will be placed as far away from the toe as possible to maintain separation of LWD and the toe of the revetment. LWD will be secured to the anchor rocks at two locations; 1. near the rootwad, and 2. near the center of the log.

To meet mitigation requirements for habitat credit, a double row of individually anchored LWD pieces will be utilized at all sites that incorporate LWD into the design. Rootwad placement will alternate between the double rows, and will be on 10 foot center-to-center spacing. This will provide a nearly 100% overlap. Logs are individually anchored to remove the potential danger of large scale movement of connected logs. LWD will be at or near the water surface during summer low flows, and will be submerged up to 30 feet below the water surface during large storm events. Details of the LWD configuration are shown on the LWD detail sheet accompanying the plans and specifications.

The LWD will be anchored by 4-6 ft diameter rocks placed riverward of the toe of the revetment. The anchor rocks will not be embedded into the riverbed due to environmental concerns. While this may initially reduce suspended sediment into the flow, this orientation will cause increased scour around the boulders initially with higher flows. There is potential that as the bed beneath

and near the anchor rocks scours out, the anchors and therefore the LWD may shift slightly with moderate flows. This is not expected to damage the LWD or its effectiveness in providing habitat, but may cause the rows of LWD to detract from parallel configuration. Anchor rocks will be located depending on size, utilizing larger / heavier rocks in areas with higher velocities, and smaller rocks in areas with lower velocities.

For a 20 ft long, 1.5 ft diameter log, two 5 ton rocks provide a factor of safety of 2.1 for lifting and 1.7 for sliding (Example for site 12-9). The analysis for sliding assumed a debris capture factor of 2.0 which doubles the area of the rootwad exposed to the flow velocity. This was compared to rotating the log 90 degrees to the flow, i.e. have the maximum cross section exposed to the river currents, and the highest drag force was used for stability calculations. Log rotation is an unexpected condition given the anchoring system, but it also provides a substantial allowance for additional drag caused by future debris accumulation. Not much debris is expected to accumulate on these LWD structures as they will be submerged up to 30 feet during flood events. The analysis does not account for additional sliding resistance that may be provided by the soil surrounding the rock.

The double layer of LWD will provide habitat function, and will minimize potential boater obstructions by sheltering 50% of the rootwads from the navigable channel. Any incorporation of rootwads into the channel will create hazards to navigation, which will hopefully be minimized. While there is boat traffic on the Skagit River, a majority of this is motorized, and will likely travel near the thalweg. LWD structures will be anchored near the bank, and will be well away from the river thalweg. There is no direct human use (tubing, kayaking, etc) expected.

If flow depth allows, LWD will be placed vertically above the anchor rocks. In areas with lower flow depths, LWD may be placed horizontal to the anchor rocks to ensure submergence in the water. All attachments shall be as tight as possible in order to reduce log movement. By tightly anchoring 2 points on the log to anchor rocks, there will be limited potential for the logs to rotate upward during high river stages. The restricted movement is important for minimizing the potential of unpredictable dynamic forces being generated by the logs.

Placing the anchor rocks outside the levee toe minimizes any opportunities for the LWD to interfere with the revetment. There are no chains extending into the riprap that could move and displace material. The logs will be anchored to the riverward side of the rocks to keep them away from the riprap.

LWD sizes are not uniform across all repair / mitigation sites. At sites 17-6 and 12-9 (just below the 3 bridge corridor), channel velocities are higher than the remaining sites due to narrow cross sections. At these sites, the maximum rootwad width recommended is 5 ft instead of the 7 ft maximum rootwad size per contract specifications. At site 22-7, a 5 ft rootwad is also recommended due to increased velocities as the flow splits between the North and South forks at Fir Island. Design calculations at this site utilized a velocity coefficient of 1.5 to account for velocity around a bend.

It is theorized by construction representatives that a sufficient quantity of smaller LWD will be obtained, and can be used at location with reduced sizes. Rootwads can also be trimmed to

match the site specific criteria if needed. These sites also require the largest anchor rocks (5 ton each). The remainder of sites can use the full size of LWD, and will have varying anchor rock sizes depending on site conditions and found below in Table 6.

Table 6. Site materials

Flood Elevations

Flood elevations are expected to be essentially unchanged throughout the reach. Sites without LWD were not investigated, because the levee footprint will not be altered with any repairs completed in 2011. Water surface elevations were modeled with HEC-RAS, and geometry files were created for the existing conditions, and with the 2011 repairs. While not used for the design parameters, flows modeled included events up to the 100 year event at the Skagit River near Concrete USGS gage (#12194000).

Due to the large river cross sectional area, and the small volume occupied by LWD structures, water surface elevations are estimated to change within 0.01 ft at all sites with LWD structures. This amount of change is undetectable, and is well below the threshold of measurement error. LWD structures were modeled as permanent ineffective flow areas, and were set at elevations that are likely from analysis of low flow conditions during the summer construction window.

At site 17-16 (groin construction), a sensitivity analysis was performed to estimate the percentage of cross section area that would need to be blocked to result in a 0.1 ft change in the upstream water surface elevations. The current design blocks 3.8% of the OHW width at cross section 13.1. This results in a flow area obstruction of 2.1% at the 25 yr flow event, and an upstream cross section water surface elevation gain of 0.01 ft.

To analyze uncertainties due to 3 dimensional flow around bends, groin designs that blocked cross section widths of both 10% and 15% were investigated. At both of these widths, the groin obstructed the thalweg of the channel, and resulted in high percentages of flow area blockage. At 10% width, the flow area blocked was 12.2%, which resulted in a water surface elevation change of 0.06 ft at the upstream cross section during the 25 yr flow event. Groin blockage of 15% resulted in 19% of flow area being blocked at the 25 yr flow event, with an upstream cross section change in water surface elevation of 0.12 ft.

While this location will be impacted by 3-dimensional flow around bends, it does not appear overly sensitive to flow obstructions. Actual water surface elevations will vary from the 1 dimensional model assumptions, but are not expected to produce backwatering in upstream cross sections due to small values of width and area blocked.

 $x \in \mathbb{R}$

pro

rt

Force Balance

Mass of rock > force of water against rock at all sections of pyramid Stability Factor >1 for all sections of pyramid

CENWS - EN - HI-I - HE KGW

-6222

0

-11794.40 **0.700207538 -8258,528896**

-8258.528896

Modified by KGW

Changes

Inserted capability for lateral Soil Capacity of buried boulders.

Modified volume of LWD calc to include frustrum volume Inserted table of wood densities, User will still need to manually input values.

added QTY of boulders

Modified max area to include estiamted rootball cross section, defined as a rectangle H=3*DBH, Width = DBH
Modified chain WLL to 6900 - as spec'd by peerless chain for 1/2 long link marine mooring chain (www.peerless.com) modified chain threshold to 1/2 A, as the LWD chain will have two attachment points into boulder. added debris factor for LWD area. Added check box to ensure debris factor*RB area> log max area

Volume of epoxy

V hole (in3) V bolt (in3) Vol Epoxy spill (in3) total (in3) Minimum fl oz. 3.5 2.5 1.1 2.0 2944.4 1631.5

Threaded rod strength

