

TOPIC: SKAGIT RIVER FLOOD DAMAGE REDUCTION FEASIBILITY STUDY
PIERCE

SUMMARY: Attended 5 June Skagit River Flood Control Committee meeting. The Committee will take the next 2 months off and meet again 11 September. Prior to meeting, I met with Sky Miller, Surface Water Manager for Skagit County Public Works Department. Also met his Engineer, Jackie Vander Veen and their hired Flood Study Facilitator, Valerie Lee. Purpose of visit was my introduction and to hear their priorities.

The Work Group, that Valerie is heading, will select the alternatives for the feasibility study. This panel is made up of various citizens, local association representatives and numerous government officials. The first scheduled meeting is 26 July. Mike Scuderi and I were asked to be on the committee, but we need Counsels input regarding the Federal Advisory Committee Act (FACA) before we proceed.

Department of Ecology and Skagit County are having a meeting 26 June to increase awareness and communication. DoE has voiced opposition to an alternative already, to preserve eelgrass in Padilla Bay.

Also received a letter from County Commissioners requesting that this PM position be filled soon to prevent schedule slip. I'm preparing a response for your signature.

IMPACT/ACTION: While the Flood Control Committee is in recess, the Working Group will start preparing a list of alternatives for the feasibility study. The 26 June meeting is the County's attempt to build trust and a working relationship with DoE. This dialog is bound to help this project as well as other County initiatives.