## **Skagit River History**

## Floods, River Migration, Projects, Fish, Farms, The Future

Presentation to: Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Presentation by: Larry Kunzler, 1/26/2006 www.skagitriverhistory.com

08/20/2005 7:36 am

## HISTORICAL NEWSPAPER PROJECT "The farther backward you can look, the farther

*"The farther backward you can look, the farther forward you are likely to see." – Winston Churchill* 

The purpose is to preserve the past for the future for use in the present.

## Our written past was being lost.

Skagit Valley Herald, Skagit Argus, Concrete Herald and the Courier Times all have lost the 1909 flood event articles.

# **ISSUES**

> All flood events Flood Control Meetings Fish Related Articles > Dam Building In Skagit County History of Agriculture History of Logging Erosion Control Projects Community History Diking and Drainage Issues

# HISTORICAL NEWSPAPER PROJECT

Books Available At All Local Libraries On line at:

www.skagitriverhistory.com
www.skagitcounty.net

452 Page Index On CD-Rom Linked to 986 newspaper articles on-line web page

# **Historical Index**

<u>12/22/21</u> CT

#### BIGGEST FLOOD IN SKAGIT HISTORY SAY OLD-TIMERS

The flood of 1921 is the biggest flood in the history of the Skagit, according to old timers, who recall the floods of 1879, 1888, 1897 and on up to the big flood of 1909 and the 1917 freshet. Mrs. Dreyer, who lives west of town, tells of the big flood of 1888, when in some places the river backed up higher than this year. She says that not so much damage was done then because there were practically no dikes and the water spread over the lowlands more gradually. Measurements at the Dalles, near Concrete, show that the flood water this year reached a point two feet higher than at any previous time in the memory of the oldest settler. Charley Moses says that it was the biggest flood, with the biggest volume of water ever carried in the Skagit. At Van Horn the water was 14<sup>1</sup>/<sub>2</sub> inches higher than it had ever been. In 1909 the river in the upper valley was only about two-thirds as wide as it is now. Hundreds of acres of land are being washed away every year, by both Skagit and Sauk rivers. W. A. Ellison says he has been on the upper river for 21 years and this is the biggest flood he has seen or heard old timers tell about.

#### BIGGEST FLOOD IN HISTORY

## DALLES TWO FEET HIGHER THAN 1909.

Charley Moses lived in valley through 1906, 1911, 1917 and 1921 events. He observed the height of the river in The Dalles in 1921.



THE HIGH WATER

OF

VIEWS

## THE COURIER-TIMES



Top-This photograph shows the main street in Burlington. While the water was well up on the stores, very little damage was done to the stocks of goods.

Middle—This shows the Walker residence on the east and of Fairhaven avenue in Burlington. The current undermined the house, and cut it in two. The picture shows half of the house lying on its side. Mr. Walker, nn aged mian, was slooping in the upper story when the house collapsed.

Bottom-Looking up the skaple river from the N. P. railroad bridge south of Sedro-Waelley. The bridge in the picture is the Thompson bridge and the immense ymount of water ponning down the Skagit is clearly shown. DECEMBER 22, 1921

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# **FLOOD HISTORY**

## NEWS FLASH!!!! THE SKAGIT RIVER FLOODS.

WHY??

## BECAUSE THAT'S WHAT RIVERS DO!!

RIVERS ARE NOTHING MORE THAN MOTHER NATURES DRAIN FIELDS

Date	C.F.S. CONCRETE	RIVER LEVEL	C.F.S. S-W	C.F.S. M.V.	RIVER LEVEL M.V. <sup>1</sup>	DATE	C.F.S. CONCRETE	RIVER LEVEL	C.F.S. S-W	C.F.S. M.V.	RIVER LEVEL M.V. <sup>1</sup>
1015	600.000	20.0		54.50.40 1 14 15 150		11/24/59	89.300	32.17	91,000	91,600	31.58
1815	500,000	69.3	400,000	54.56 (Sedro Woolley ("S- W")Gage)		11/24/59	69,500	32.17	91,000 N/A	70,200	28.51
1856	350.000	57.3	300.000	51.06 (S-W Gage)		12/16/60			N/A	70,200	28.51
11/16/1896			185,000	45.86 (S-W Gage)		01/16/61	79.000	30.61	N/A	76,000	29.40
11/18/1897	275.000	51.1	190.000	45.96 (S-W Gage)		11/20/62	114,000	35.73	N/A	83,200	29.40 30.44
11/16/06			180.000	180,000	37.00	10/22/63	73,800	29.80	N/A N/A	65,200 N/A	50.44 N/A
11/18/08			97,000	N/A	N/A	11/27/63		29.00 31.41	N/A N/A		28.80
11/30/09	260.000	49.1	220,000	47.56 (S-W Gage)			84,200			72,100	
11/21/10			114.000	N/A <sup>2</sup>	N/A	06/22/67	72,300	29.59	N/A	72,000	28.78
12/30/17	220.000	45.7	195,000	N/A	N/A	10/28/67			N/A N/A	72,700	28.89 28.43
12/12/21	240.000	47.6	210.000	140.000 <sup>3</sup>	N/A	01/21/68					
12/12/24	92,500	32.44	N\A	N/A	N/A	06/03/68			N/A N/A	68,800 70,300	28.09 28.52
10/16/26	88,900	32.03	110-1	1905	196	01/31/71					
1/12/28	95,500	32.90				07/13/72	91,900	32.54	N/A	80,600	30.07
10/9/28	74,300	29.94				01/16/74	79,900	30.75	N/A	77,600	29.64
02/27/32	147,000	39.99	157,000	N/A	N/A	12/4/75	122,000	36.88	N/A	130,000	35.66
11/13/32	116,000	33.33	125,000	N/A	N/A	12/2/77	70,300	29.27		65,600	27.59
12/22/33	101,000	33.60	110,000	N/A	N/A	12/19/79	135,000	38.57	N/A	112,000	33.99
01/25/35	131,000	37.90	110,000	N/A	N/A	12/27/80	148,700	40.19	N/A	114,000	34.16
06/19/37	68,300	28.97		N/A	IWA	12/04/82	100,000	33.82	N/A	71,600	28.65
10/28/37	89,600	32.16				01/05/84	109,000	34.94	N/A	88,200	31.14
5/29/39	79,600	30.70				01/19/86	93,400	32.75	N/A	72,800	28.84
12/2/41	76,300	30.17		65,300	25.99	11/24/86	83,500	31.30	N/A	70,700	28.49
12/2/41	65,200	28.49		65,500	23.35	10/16/88	74,100	29.86	N/A	56,700	25.77
02/8/45		20.49		59,800	25.77	11/11/89	119,000	36.39	N/A	88,220	31.14
	70,800					12/05/89			N/A	95,480	32.39
10/25/46	82,200	31.14	N1/A	64,900	27.80 30.25	11/11/90	142,000	40.20	N/A	142,000	36.60
10/26/45	102,000	34.00	N/A	94,300		11/24/90			196,0004	152,000	37.37
10/19/47	95,200	32.99	N/A	69,400	28.68	11/08/95	143,000	39.45	N/A	89,900	31.62 <sup>5</sup>
11/28/49	154,000	40.8	149,000	114,000	34.21	11/11/95	72,900	29.67	N/A	59,200	26.60
11/26/50			N/A	68,400	28.19	11/14/95	67,700	28.86	N/A	57,100	26.18
12/25/50			N/A	74,000	29.08	11/25/95	63,200	28.11	N/A	61,500	27.03
02/11/51	139,000	38.99	150,000	144,000	36.85	11/29/95	160,000	41.57	N/A	133,000	37.32
02/1/53	66,000	28.61		65,700	27.76	02/09/96	88,900	32.11	N/A	81,800	29.27
10/26/55			N/A	84,900	30.69	03/20/97	74,740	29.96	N/A	74,980	29.52°
11/04/55	106,000	34.48	113,000	107,000	33.52	11/13/99	101,000	33.80	39.20	78,600	29.88′
04/30/59	90,700	32.36	92,000	92,300	31.68						

During the 20<sup>th</sup> century, the Skagit River reached flood stage 66 times since 1900 for an average of once every 1.5 years.

### THINGS TO BE DONE

After all, it might have been far worse. No irretrievable damage has been done. The thing to be done now is to clean up, begin the work of repair, and proceed as though nothing had happened. Skagit county has a glorious future and not even extraordinary misfortune can set it back for any length of time. The weak-kneed brothers will move out; those made of sterner stuff will stay and reap the rewards of grit and energy. It is no time for calamity howlers, and they should not be tolerated. Let them go their way; their places will be filled by better men.

No expense should be apared to out the start of

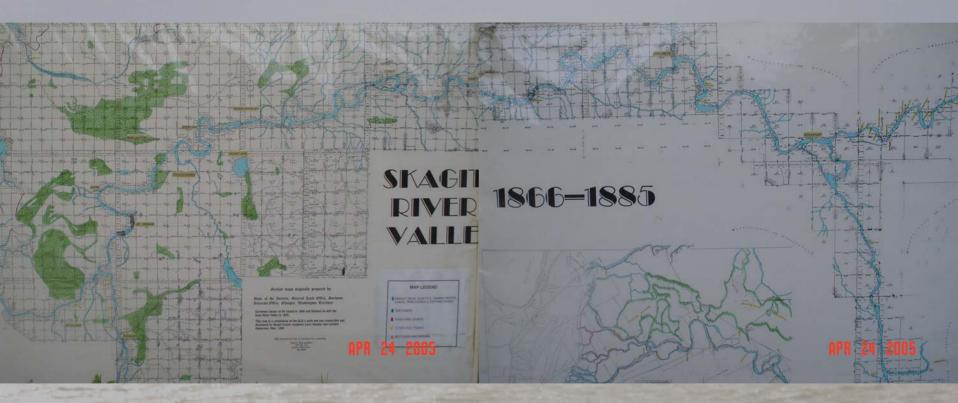
Source: Dec. 4, 1909 issue of "The Herald-Recorder," Skagit county's official paper published at Hamilton . Republished in the Courier Times 12/1/49)

## TOWN OF HAMILTON 2003 FLOOD EVENT

The Rewards of Grit & Energy

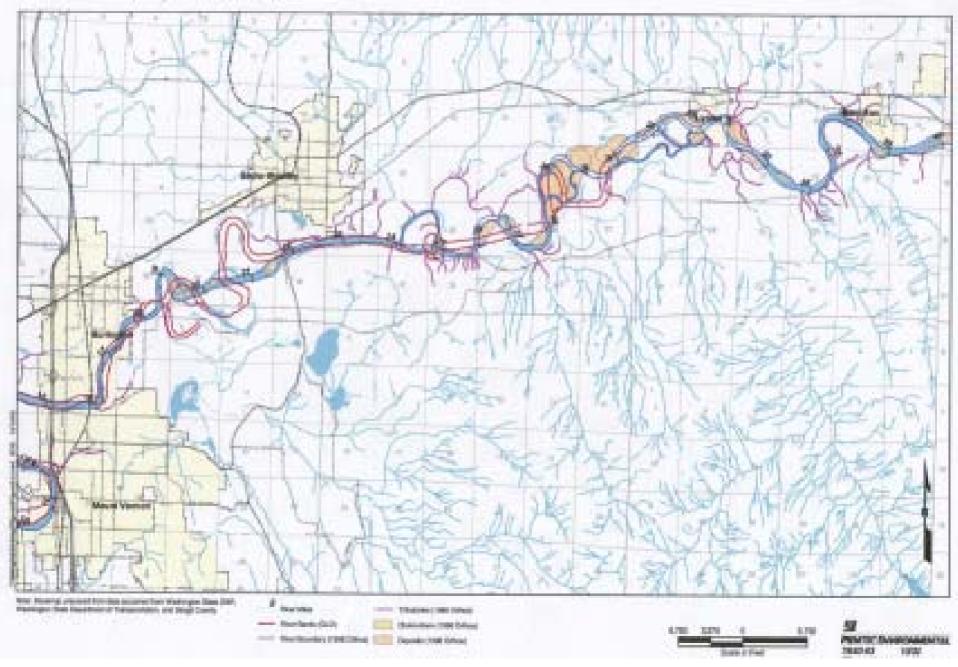
No Calamity Howlers Allowed!

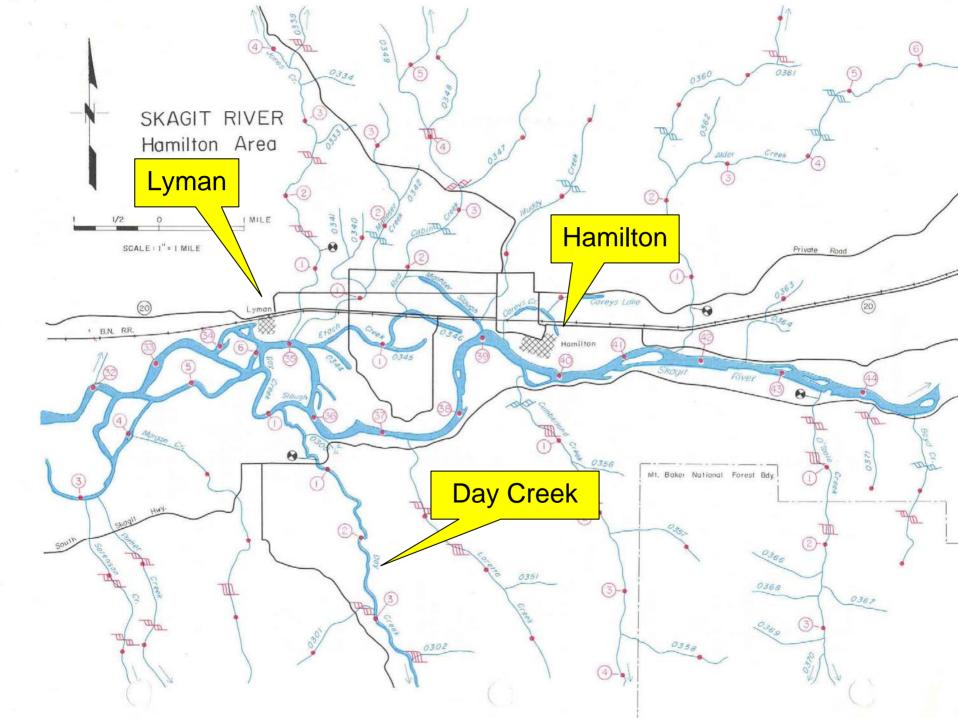
### SKAGIT RIVER MIGRATION



Original Section Map Prepared by GLO 1866-1885

#### Record and Historic (1894) Channel Boundaries





### Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group Prepared by: Middle Fork GIS

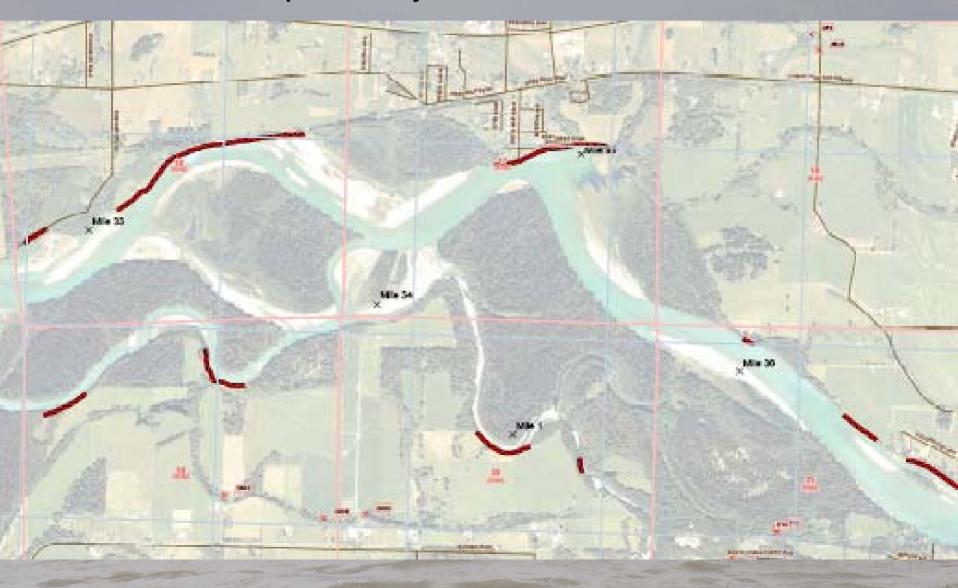
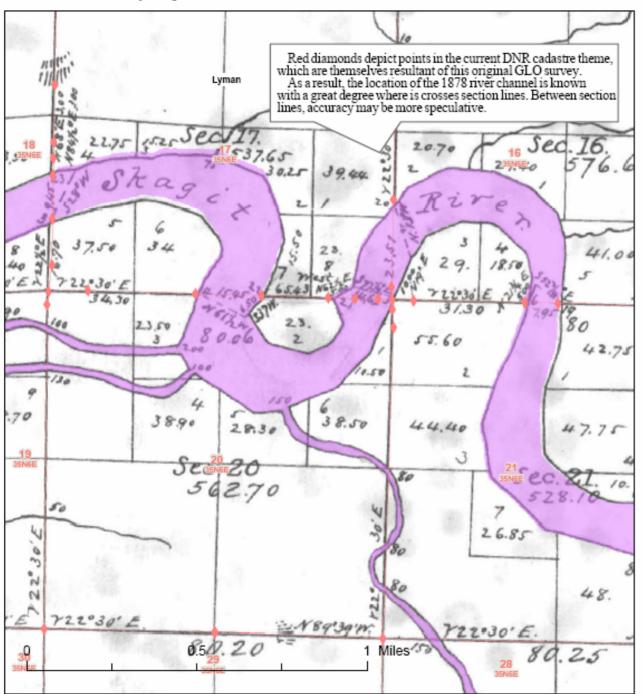
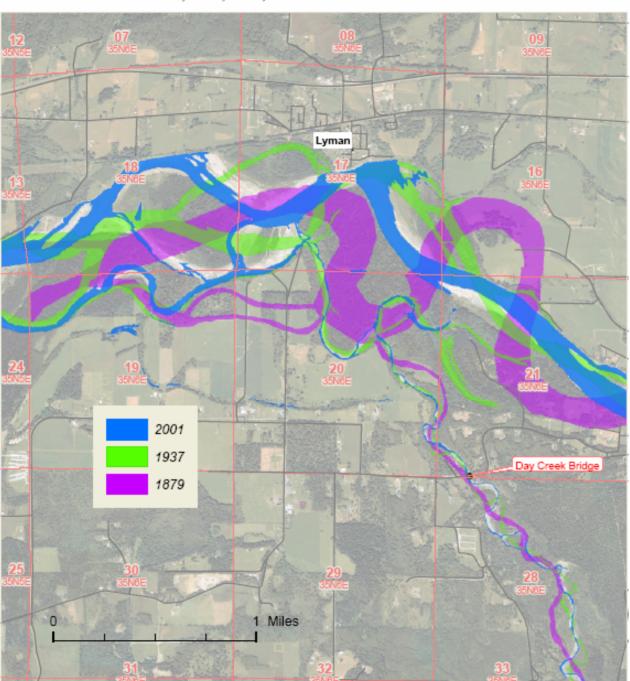


Plate 24: 1879 Survey Map



Source: Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, Plate 24 Prepared by: Middle Fork GIS

Plate 29: Channel Positions, 1879, 1937, and 2001



Source: Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group, Plate 29 Prepared by: Middle Fork GIS

# Why Rivers Change Course

It's what rivers do and they do it for a variety of reasons:
Volcanic eruptions
Landslides
Earthquakes
Major Flood Events
Flood Control Projects

"I realize that for every change man makes to a rivers levee system, a change in the river may result." (Source: Colonel Donald T. Wynn, Corps of Engineers, letter to Leonard Halverson, 10/15/96)

## Bridge Btwn Lyman & Day Creek

#### MOUNT VERNON DAILY HERALD

FEBRUARY 14, 1924

## High Water Hits Lyman TEN FAMILIES ARE MAROONED

As an aftermath of the high water of the last few days, the upper Skagit people are experiencing much anxiety from possible danger of landslides. This is barticularly true of a small

This is particularly true of a small group of ten families, who are marcomed on a small island across the river from Lyman, caused by the washing out of three bridges across the Skagit near Lyman, or their approaches.

Practically all communication with the outer world has been removed, except by cable. Through this means of transportation, provisions are carried across the swollen river each day while the families on the island send back milk and eggs by return cable.

With the Skagit river in its present turbulent condition, it is considered little less than folly to attempt to cross it by any boat or launch procurable by the islanders. Their condition is rendered more perilous through the small landsides which are occurring along the banks of the less in the vicinity of Lyman.

CONTRACTOR OF A DESCRIPTION OF A DESCRIP

For a time the bridge between Lyrian and Hamilton was impassable but was repaired today so that light cars may bass over it.

Since last night, portions of land are caving away on the Lyman side of the Skagit and grave fears are entertained by the residents whose homes or stores are \_ close to the river bank. The five-room house of Mr. and Mrs. Henry Silles is now occupying a position in the center of the main street of the city. Landsildes close to this building seemed to make it unsafe and it had just been moved away from near the brink today when a slide occurred which would have been disastrous had the building remained on its proper site.

Several of the smaller homes within ten to tweive feet of the river have been moved. Men are hauling spruce trees and laying them along the river to prevent caving in of the land near the school building, and steps to prevent loss are being taken by residents of Lyman. away Tuesday night, while the two bridges across Alder creek are rendered useless for the present, owing to their approaches having been swept away.

# Day Creek Flood Project

### THE COURIER-TIMES

, MARCH 24, 1938

### Plan New \$200,000 Skagit Flood Work

County Board Confers With U.S. Engineer; Agrees To Sponsor Project; John Mason Heads New Flood Control Group

> Tromise of a new \$200,000 Skagit flood control program to supplement the river bank revetment work for which funds are now exhausted, was given by the Skagit county commissioners this week after a conference with Captain Trudeau, U. S. army engineer in charge of flood control work in this district. Details of the new program will be werked out through the new Skagit Flood Control Association of which Chairman John Mason of the county commissioners in president.

A reacting to unitive plane for the new Single float order in a second state of the control of the second state of project of the Day Crack discret, the single state of the second state

langer apply on the sense would

Commissioner Ed Carr of this district, who is an enthusiastic

district, who is an estimatic supporter of the new program, stated today that about one hundread and fifty of the present or the samin triver, for which approject of some \$11bout fifty men would be heart on the Skapir liver to handle the ang clearing work, for which a big sum has already been appropriated. The Samish river bank from the mouth to Friday creek and a long stretch of Friday creek is to be straightoned to prevent future flood erosion. Chairman John Mason plans to call a meeting of the new Flood Control Association in the near future, to present his tantative plans for flood control in the courty which, besides the promised river bank protection, includes an extensive dreaging program at the lower part of the river. Congresso gave his approval to such a program. The office of the crew a work on the project will be kept in Bedro-Woolley. The Bedro-Woolley Chamber of

The Sedra-Weolley Chamber of Commerce, which has been working on the flood control project, has joined the new County Flood Comtrol Arasociation to work for dreading on the Skagit, where needed, in a complete program of flood prevention, as suggested by Clyde Shrauger and John Mason of Mt. Vernon.

At the recent organization meeting an event of the entry of the entry were represented, and county work together for a county-wide program. President John Mason urged the tewns and rural districts to cooperate and asked all to list all darger speta on the river, so the plans to be adopted in asking for more government financing, will not favor any section of the county. According to tentative plans for the new Skagit flood control project to be sponsored by the county, all parts of the river will be included, with a couple of projects for the Day Creek district, the big project at Conway, one at Sterling, at Hamilton, Utopia and other danger spots on the river, which the crew of men under the present appropriation, were unable to complete.

# Day Creek Fish Project

### THE CONCRETE HERALD

Formerly the Hamilton Herald Established Nov. 23, 1901. Oldest Paper in the Upper Skagit.

August 14, 1947

#### MANY FISH TO BE PLANTED IN UPPER SKAGIT DISTRICT

More fish plantings for the upper Skagit district were in prospect as State Game Protector M. Splane began a plant of rainbow and cutthroat fry from the Lake Whatcom hatchery. The first are between three and four inches in length.

Plantings will be made as follows: Day Creek, 15:000 Upper Skagit between Gorse Creek and Diablo 20:000 20:000 in Greek along the Baker River: 10:000 in Swift Creek

Big Watson lake will be planted with 20,000 cutthroat by plane and another 50,000 rainbow will be flown to Diablo Lake. Grandy Lake is slated for 30,000 cutthroats by truck. More fish plantings for the upper Skagit district were in prospect as State Game Protector M. Splane began a plant of rainbow and cutthroat fry from the Lake Whatcom hatchery. The first are between three and four inches in length.

Plantings will be made as follows: Day Creek, 15,000; Upper Skagit between Gorge Creek and Diablo, 20,000; 25,000 in creeks along the Baker River; 10,000 in Swift Creek.

# **Baker Lake Fish Hatchery**

### THE CONCRETE HERALD

Formerly the Hamilton Herald Established Nov. 23, 1901. Oldest Paper in the Upper Skagit.

January 17, 1920

#### FISH HATCHERY AT BAKER LAKE STOPS WORK FOR WINTER

#### COLD WEATHER STOPS WORK ON NEW CONSTRUCTION-WORK STOPPED UNTIL SPRING AND CREW LAID

OFF

Foreman Joe Kemmerick of the Baker Lake fish hatchery came into town Thursday with the news that work at the hatchery had been stopped for the winter and all extra men laid off. Only enough men will be retained at the fisheries station to look after the eggs in the hatchery building and care for to property at the lake. Those who will remain at the lake through the winter are Foreman Kemmerick, Cook Sparks, Fish Culturist Noyes and Ernest Mays. These men will keep things moving until the weather moderates in the spring, when the full crew will again be put to work running the station and rebuilding the plant destroved by fire last summer.

During the severe cold last month Baker Lake was frozen over and work at the sawmill stopped because logs could not be towed across the lake to operate the mill. When the cold snap broke the ice in the lake thawed out, and work was again resumed. Things moved smoothly until the first of the vear, when the lake again froze over, and since then the crew has been kept busy trying to find something to do. As the construction work cannot proceed without the mill in steady operation, and as it was uncertain whether the mill could be operated again during the winter, Foreman Kemmerick decided that the best plan would be to stop all work until spring.

The men now at the hatchery will have a considerable job on their hands in about a month, when about two and a half million egs now being eyed at the lake will have to be carried out and shipped to the Birdsview hatchery, where they will be hatched. These will have to be packed out on horses, with the trail at its worst. However, it is a job that has to be done every year, and the men are already making arrangements for it. It will require about eight trips with the pack train to carry out all the eggs to be sent to Birdsview.

### Fish hatchery on Baker Lake.

Operated by State in 1896. Was operated by the federal government in 1898. Closed in 1934.

Carried out the sockeye and steelhead fry by horseback to the hatchery at Birdsview.

➢ In 1920 2.5 million eggs were transported to Birdsview.

# **Baker Lake Fish Hatchery**

#### THE CONCRETE HERALD

Formerly the Hamilton Herald Established Nov. 23, 1901. Oldest Paper in the Upper Skagit.

June 21, 1951

#### CONCRETE HERALD ANNIVERSARY EDITION

#### The Story of the Baker Lake Fish Hatchery is Historic Lore

Artificial propagation of sockeve salmon began in 1896 when in that year the State of Washington originally established the hatchery at Baker Lake where existed the only natural spawning grounds of sockeye salmonin United States waters on Puget Sound, By that time there were already pack horse trails on both the east and west sides of the Baker River and a number of pioneers had located homesteads on both sides of the Baker River and on the shore of Baker Lake. Mrs. Richard Thompson (Emma Ruth) I believe is the only one of such pioneers now remaining in this locality. At that time and for several years after there was considerable prospecting for gold several miles up Noisy Creek. A cylinder containing about 200 pounds of mercury was left by one of the miners at his claim when he was starved out and in 1916 he returned and packed the mercury out since by that time such metal had greatly increased in value.

The original buildings constructed by the state consisted of a residence for the superintendent, a hatchery building, a small barn for saddle and pack horses and a combination mess and dormitory building for the crew. These buildings were all made of split cedar boards except that the door and window casings were ripped out with a whipsaw. For the first few years of operation of the hatchery the eggs were obtained by seizing the fish on the spawning grounds in the upper Baker River. In 1899 by Executive Order Baker Lake and the land within one half mile of the lake shore line, except lands already patented, were withdrawn from the Washington Forest Reserve (Now Mount Baker National Forest) for fish cultural purposes. In July of that year the United States Government purchased the Baker Lake Hatchery project from the State of Washington for \$6,400 and the United States Fish Commission (later becoming the Bureau of Fisheries) conducted operations from then on. The first superintendent for the United States was a Mr. Buck from Bucksport Maine and Henry O'Mallev was the first fish culturist. In about 1901 Mr. Buck resigned and Mr. O'Malley became the superintendent and from this position he continued to advance to the higher grades until in May 1922 he was appointed Commissioner of Fisheries by President Harding.

The first work of importance carried out after the federal government took over operation was the installation of a trap at the mouth of the lake in 70 feet of water for catching the salmon upon their arrival and the construction of holding pens at the upper end of the lake in a small stream which turned out to be the best holding water for salmon to remain and ripen in of any since found in the state. Such traps and holding pens were constructed about 1900 and 1901. The salmon when caught in the trap were transferred to live crates and towed across the lake to the Only spawning grounds of Sockeye salmon in US Waters.

Sockeye runs in Lake Union are direct descendants of Baker River salmon.

Lower Baker Dam in 1925 began to devastate fish runs on Skagit River.

1924, 14,500 sockeye were harvested. Producing 22,000,000 eggs.

➢ In 1925 only 40 sockeye were harvested, 51,000 eggs.

# **Birdsview Fish Hatchery**

### THE CONCRETE HERALD

Formerly the Hamilton Herald Established Nov. 28, 1901. Oldest Paper in the Upper Skagit.

June 21, 1951

#### CONCRETE HERALD ANNIVERSARY EDITION

#### **Birdsview Hatchery Started In 1900**

About the year 1900 a small hatchery was established on Grandy Creek at Birdsview as an auxiliary to the Baker Lake hatchery. Salmon eggs for the hatchery were obtained from both Grandy Creek and Phinney Creek. In 1911 extensive improvements and construction of buildings were made. including a new hatchery building, barn, and several residences, and the old hatchery building was made into a workshop. The office of the Baker Lake hatchery superintendent was then moved to the Birdsview hatchery since the field operations became enlarged and Birdsview was more accessible for mail and transportation as well as being more centrally located since the hatcheries on Hood's Canal were also added to the field. After 1911 from time to time further improvements and construction of buildings were carried out as became necessary. However, by 1947 the run of salmon into Grandy Creek had declined greatly and the water of the creek during winter and early spring was muddy for such long periods that fish cultural work could not be carried out with maximum efficiency. Logging off of the creek watershed caused the changed condition in the creek. The long periods of muddy water in the creek during the winter months especially, appeared to be a factor in the decline in the numbers of salmon entering. The creek and at times fingerling fish in the ponds could not be properly fed for several weeks at a time. Therefore further

operation of the hatchery was not considered justifiable. Accordingly on July 1, 1947 the hatchery was closed and eventually was transferred to the State Game Department.

At the present time there remains only one federal fish hatchery still in operation in the Puget Sound area, that being at Quilcene on Hood's Canal. At present the Fish & Wildlife Service is concerned chiefly with the Columbia River and tributaries and with the Sacramento River in California in so far as fish cultural work is concerned.

### First constructed 1900.

➢ By 1947 the water quality in Grandy Creek had so deteriorated due to logging activities that the water in the creek was no longer suitable for hatchery use and in 1947 the hatchery closed.

# **Marblemount Fish Hatchery**

### THE CONCRETE HERALD

Formerly the Hamilton Herald Established Nov. 23, 1901. Oldest Paper in the Upper Skagit.

July 18, 1946

#### WORK BEGINS ON STATE FISH HATCHERY

#### BELLINGHAM CONTRACTOR NOW ON JOB AT MARBLEMOUNT BUILDING PROJECT

Work on the new state fish hatchery at Marblemount was under way Tuesday of this week as Roy N. Gasaland of Bellingham, contractor who built the Marblemount school, began construction of the large project on the Cascade river.

No announcement had been made of the amount of the bid or who had been awarded the contract until the contractor began preparations for the job.

Construction plans call for a main fish hatchery building 46 feet by 172 feet of rustic stone and timber construction, 20 cement rearing ponds, a large home for the caretaker and other small buildings.

Also to be constructed are a low dam, a complete water system and pumping plant, a sewage system and other utility items.

Four small bridges are to be built over the streams to be used in the hatchery's water supply.

#### **Complete in Six Months**

The contract calls for all work to be completed and ready for use within six months, so that the new hatchery should be in operation shortly after the first of the year.

The hatchery will be used to raise trout and salmon for a program of restocking the hundreds of lakes and streams in the upper valley in addition to trying to bring the fish population of the Skagit River back to normal. Construction began 1947.

Purpose was to bring fish runs back to normal.

➤ 3,000,000 Chinook, silver and steelhead were supposed to be put into Skagit each year.

Seattle City Light helped pay for hatchery due to damage done to fish upstream of Marblemount.

## **Skagit Best Farmland in Nation**



Trease Seven and Last Two Out of Twelve Won Locally; Gunderson Farm 100 Per Cent.

States government

soil given a perfect

-----

The United

has just community in the nation, buy none! munity in the nation, buy none! In a series of soil tests extending over the past seven years, which has just been completed, Skagit county soil won nine out of 12 points. An assay of soil taken from the Cunderson estate, south of Clear Lake, was found the pay cent perfect for

Analysis of soil in this district took first seven places in the nation, the Cumberland valley, in Maryland, took the next three, and this county took the next.

#### The tests were conducted by the United States department of spriculture.

Announcement of the result of the test was made to the Rotary club, Tuesday, by Robert Lord, of the Northwest Implement Co., during a classification talk on farm implements. It was greeted with enthusiasm by the Rotarians, all of whom already knew that this was the finest country in the United States, but who didn't realize how fine it was. Mr. Lord said he got his information from C. I. Hall, who in turn got it from a federal land bank official. The results of the test have not yet been officially announced as yet by the department of agriculture. The county will receive some

The county will receive some invaluable advertising from the test, the results of which will be broadcasted throughout the country.

Mr. Lord gave an extremely interesting talk, tracing the evolution of farm implements, from their crude beginnings to the present. The United States government has just admitted that Skagit county is the finest farming community in the nation, bar none!

Skagit county soil won nine out of 12 points. An assay of soil taken from the Gunderson estate, south of Clear Lake, was found to be 100 per cent perfect for general agricultural purposes. It was the only soil given a perfect rating.

The tests were conducted by the United States department of agriculture.

(Source: Mt. Vernon Argus, 9/2/25)

# FUTURE OF FLOOD CONTROL

More storage behind dams or change in operational procedures before, during & after flood events

No-brainer approach, everybody wins, currently 180 million for fish and recreation and **ZERO** for flood control unacceptable

### Nookachamps storage

Doable if includes buyout of property owners

Could create 1,000's of acres of wetlands, fish mitigation projects, wetland banking areas, recreational opportunities for both fisherman bird watchers and hunters

### 100-250 year protection for urban areas

No problem so long as cities stay within current UGA's No development of land currently zoned agricultural

# FUTURE OF FLOOD CONTROL ISSUES

Safety
Promote Economic Development
Prevent damages to infrastructure
Good for fish, farms & families

FOR

### AGAINST

Loss of farmland due to increased development pressure Cost, would increase local taxes F/C should not be a reward for bad land use planning Voters should decide this issue not government