

COPY

SKAGIT COUNTY FARM BUREAU

R.W. Kaess, Executive Secretary

Mount Vernon, Washington

December 26, 1950

Hon. Henry M. Jackson  
Member of Congress  
Washington, D. C.

Dear Sir:

A special committee of diking commissioners, farmers, and others interested in the flood control problems of the lower Skagit River, after making an extensive study of the situation as it exists today, have unanimously agreed that the following program is needed to prevent disasterous loss of lives and property in this area:

1. Removal of dams at the head of Deep Slough and Clear Slough which were placed there in October 1950 would greatly facilitate the run-off of flood water and make possible the operation of existing drainage systems.

2. Enlarging of the opening in the stone jetty in the same area to full river width (about 500 feet) to facilitate the flow of water through natural channels.

3. The completion of the Mill Town Dike in Diking Dist. 16 which was destroyed or removed this fall in preparation for a new dike which has not yet been built thus leaving that area and the area south into Snohomish County including the cities of Stanwood and East Stanwood unprotected against flood damage. This would entail the construction of approximately 3000 feet of levee.

4. A general program of raising and strengthening the existing levees on both sides of the lower Skagit River to prevent a repetition of the disasterous floods of a year ago.

Items 1 and 2 involve only very minor costs and can easily be accomplished. Item 3 presents a very serious and immediate problem. Several hundred acres of rich farm land are flooded today and a million dollar flood damage is possible with the usual spring floods. Item 4 presents that part of the basic need of the area that is deemed to be economically feasible and must be finished as rapidly as possible.

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Your assistance in facilitating this program will be greatly appreciated.

Yours truly

/s/ R. W. Kaess

R. W. Kaess, Secretary  
Skagit County Farm Bureau  
(For the Committee)