

THE CONCRETE HERALD

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Chinook Brings Fast Flood Crest

The Skagit river made one of its quickest rises to flood stage Tuesday morning after continued rain and warm Chinook wind combined to bring the stream to flood stage in a matter of a few hours. The warm wind began late Monday evening late, followed by more heavy rain. By Tuesday morning the river was running bank full and the Baker dam here was pouring water through all gates, unable to hold the sudden run-off on the upper Baker valley.

No special damage was reported from the flood waters, except that the highway was closed for a time at Hamilton and on the South Skagit highway below the Dalles.

High winds that were part of the storm knocked over trees and did considerable damage to phone lines—blowing down several poles at Van Horn. Trees were across the road on the South Skagit highway and several were down in the the Lion's Club park at the Dalles.

The river guage at the Dalles was checked at 35 feet at the high point of the flood. Most unusual was the huge quantities of drift dislodged in the sudden rise. The logs and debris swept from old jams and piled up in new ones all the way down the river. Jams at the bridges along the river were unprecedented.

The storm brought flooding in the lower valley around Clear Lake and the Nookachamps area. A dike broke at Conway, flooding several hundred acres of farm land there.

The river began to drop Wednesday and was down below danger levels today. Continuing heavy rain has not eased the threat, though it is snowing up high and no fast run-off will come unless another Chinook strikes.