

Engineers Will Deepen Skagit Mouth Immediately - Westland

North Fork River Work

The plug is about to be pulled out of the silt-filled mouth of the north fork of the Skagit River.

Congressman Jack Westland, second district sent the Daily Herald the following telegram this morning:

"Regarding action to improve conditions at the mouth of the north fork of Skagit River. Army engineers advise work will be undertaken immediately to deepen channel depth about six inches. This deepening will mean the difference between vessels and rafts stranding or making the passage safely."

Mount Vernon Chamber of Commerce President Ted Reep was jubilant when he heard the news.

"This action by the Army Engineers came as the result of work by the Chamber of Commerce which has sparked the drive to clean out the river and improve it for more use of water transport transportation," Reep said.

Reep said the chamber still intends to meet with Congressman Westland about permanent river improvements when Westland arrives in the Second District from Washington, D.C.

Commercial rivermen Harry Grimison and Jim Dunlap told Chamber of Commerce Board members two weeks ago that river boats and log rafts could now get through the north fork only during high tides.