

County sees no dangers to flood plan

Skagit County commissioners yesterday explained that diversion of about \$45,000 in river improvement funds to the county's current expense account will not jeopardize any flood control projects.

The board cut the 1960 river improvement fund from one mill to three-tenths of a mill, with the difference going to the current expense fund to help balance the county's main operating budget.

CHAIRMAN WALLACE Sharpe explained the county will have a surplus of \$30,000 in the river improvement fund at the end of this year because the state eliminated several county projects from the July-December, 1959, working period.

State officials divided their 1959-1961 fiscal biennium into four quarters and allocated a portion of their river money to each period.

SKAGIT COUNTY officials had planned projects involving about \$300,000 of state, county and dike district money during the last six months of 1959. But the state provided only \$21,000 in matching money for this period and thus cut the volume of work planned.

The reduction in work projects — and in state matching funds — will leave the county the \$30,000 surplus at the end of this year, Sharpe said.

That \$30,000, plus about \$18,000 to be raised by the levy of three-tenths of a mill, will give the county about \$48,000 — enough to handle valley projects, Sharpe said.