

Skagit River General Investigation NEPA Public Meeting

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District

June 19, 2014



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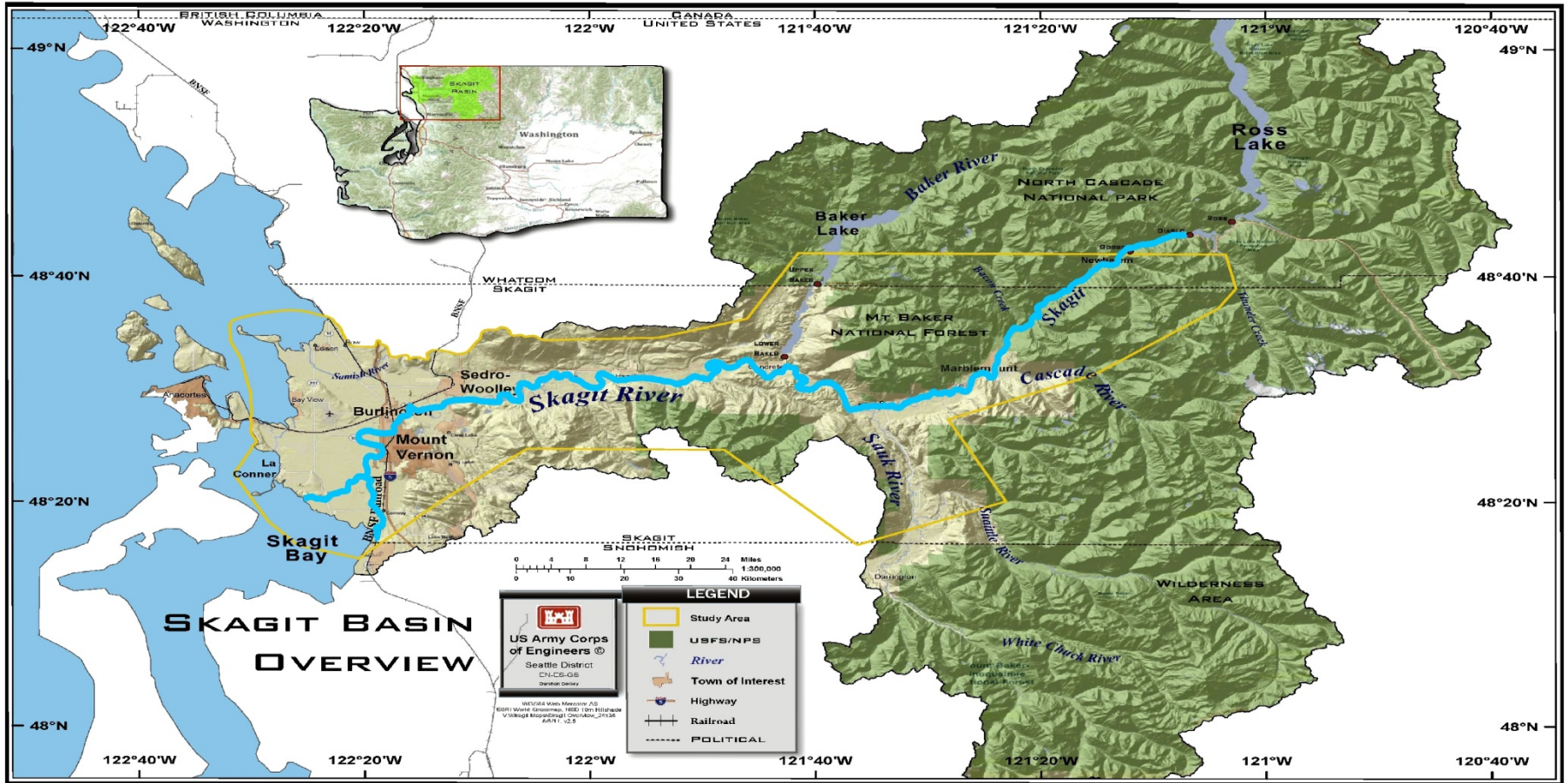


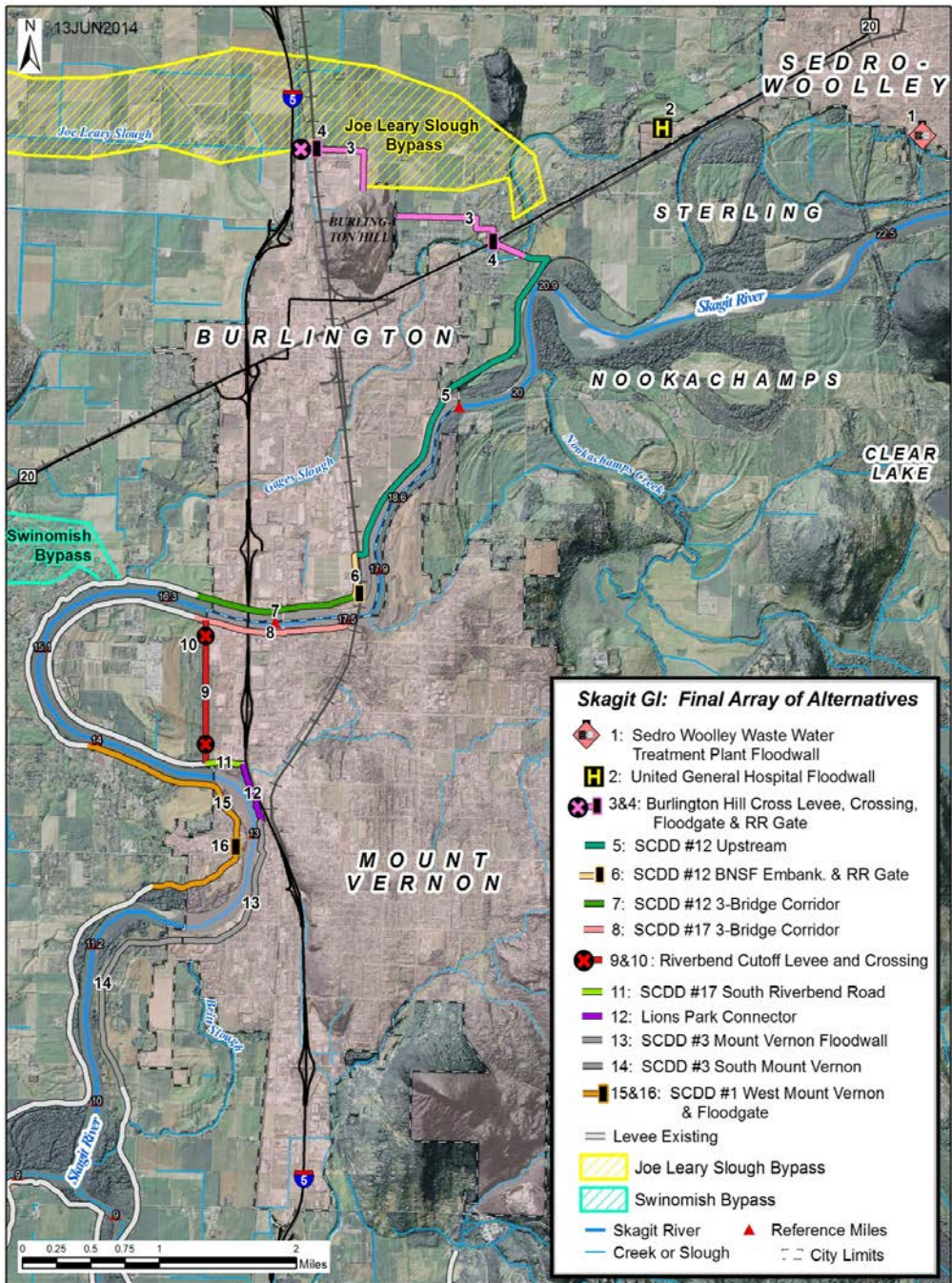
Executive Summary

- Flood risk management project
- Population at risk: ~25,000
- Flood fight efforts have prevented loss of life & flood damages = high risk
- Protect critical infrastructure in floodplain
- Tentatively Selected Plan (TSP) identified, draft FR/EIS out for public review & comment
- TSP: least environmental impacts, among plans considered/final array



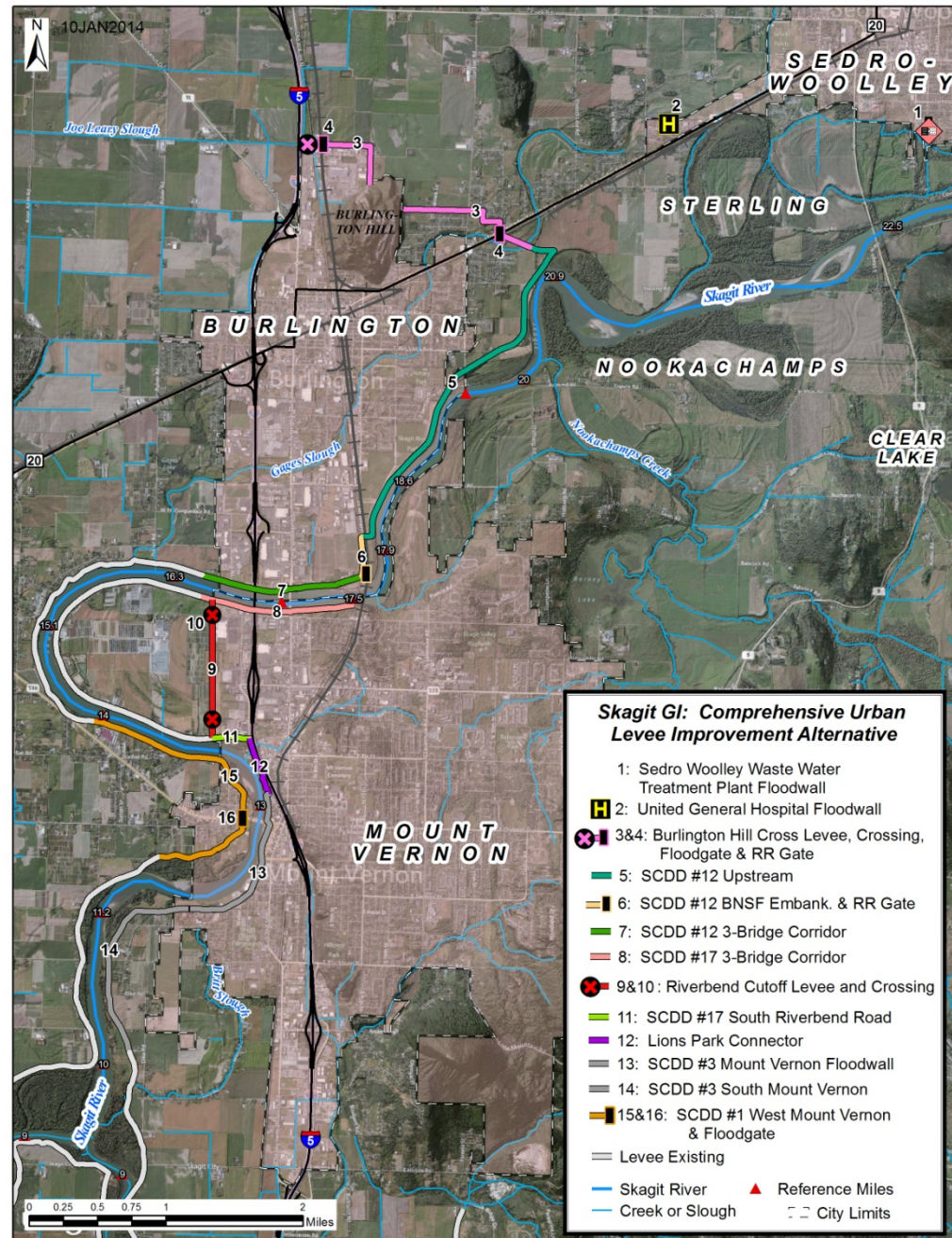
Study Area





TSP: CULI Alternative

- Improve approximately 9 miles of existing levees
- New Northern Burlington levee
- New Riverbend levee
- Non-structural measures
- Operation modification to Upper & Lower Baker Dams
- No modifications to I-5 or bridges
- Least environmentally damaging alternative



Economic Benefits of Comprehensive Urban Levee Improvement Alternative

NED Plan

Damage Reach(es)	Without-project EAD	1.3% ACE (75-year)		1% ACE (100-year)		0.4% ACE (250-year)*	
		EAD (Residual Risk)	Benefits (EAD Reduced)	EAD (Residual Risk)	Benefits (EAD Reduced)	EAD (Residual Risk)	Benefits (EAD Reduced)
Burlington (Reach 1A)	\$14,737,000	\$2,925,000	\$11,812,000	\$1,770,000	\$12,967,000	\$955,000	\$13,782,000
Mount Vernon (Reaches 2A, 4A, and 5A)	3,740,000	837,000	2,904,000	338,000	3,401,000	99,000	3,640,000
La Conner (Reach 7)	872,000	283,000	589,000	134,000	738,000	86,000	786,000
Rural Floodplain (all other reaches)	20,550,000	19,453,000	1,096,000	19,099,000	1,452,000	18,974,000	1,577,000
Total Expected Annual Damages/Benefits	\$39,899,000	\$23,498,000	\$16,401,000	\$21,341,000	\$18,558,000	\$20,114,000	\$19,785,000
Total Investment Cost (Sep 2013 price level)		\$203,226,000		\$215,278,000		\$227,687,000	
Total Annual Cost (3.5% discount rate, 50 years)		\$9,565,000		\$10,079,000		\$10,608,000	
Net Benefits (Annual Benefits - Annual Costs)		\$6,836,000		\$8,479,000		\$9,177,000	
Benefit-Cost Ratio (BCR) (Annual Benefits / Annual Costs, 3.5% discount rate)		1.7		1.8		1.9	

* *National Economic Development (NED) Plan* = plan that reasonably maximizes net benefits; Federal interest/objective is to contribute to National Economic Development where benefits > costs (i.e. BCR>1.0)



Overview of Environmental Analysis

- Hydrology & Hydraulics
- Geomorphology & Sediment Transport
- Air Quality & Greenhouse Gases
- Noise
- Soil Resources
- Water Quality & Quantity
- Wetlands Habitat
- Riparian Habitat
- Aquatic Habitat
- Fish & Wildlife
- Threatened & Endangered Species
- Cultural Resources
- HTRW
- Land Use, Planning & Zoning
- Agricultural Resources
- Socioeconomics & Environmental Justice
- Transportation & Traffic
- Public Services & Utilities
- Public Health & Safety

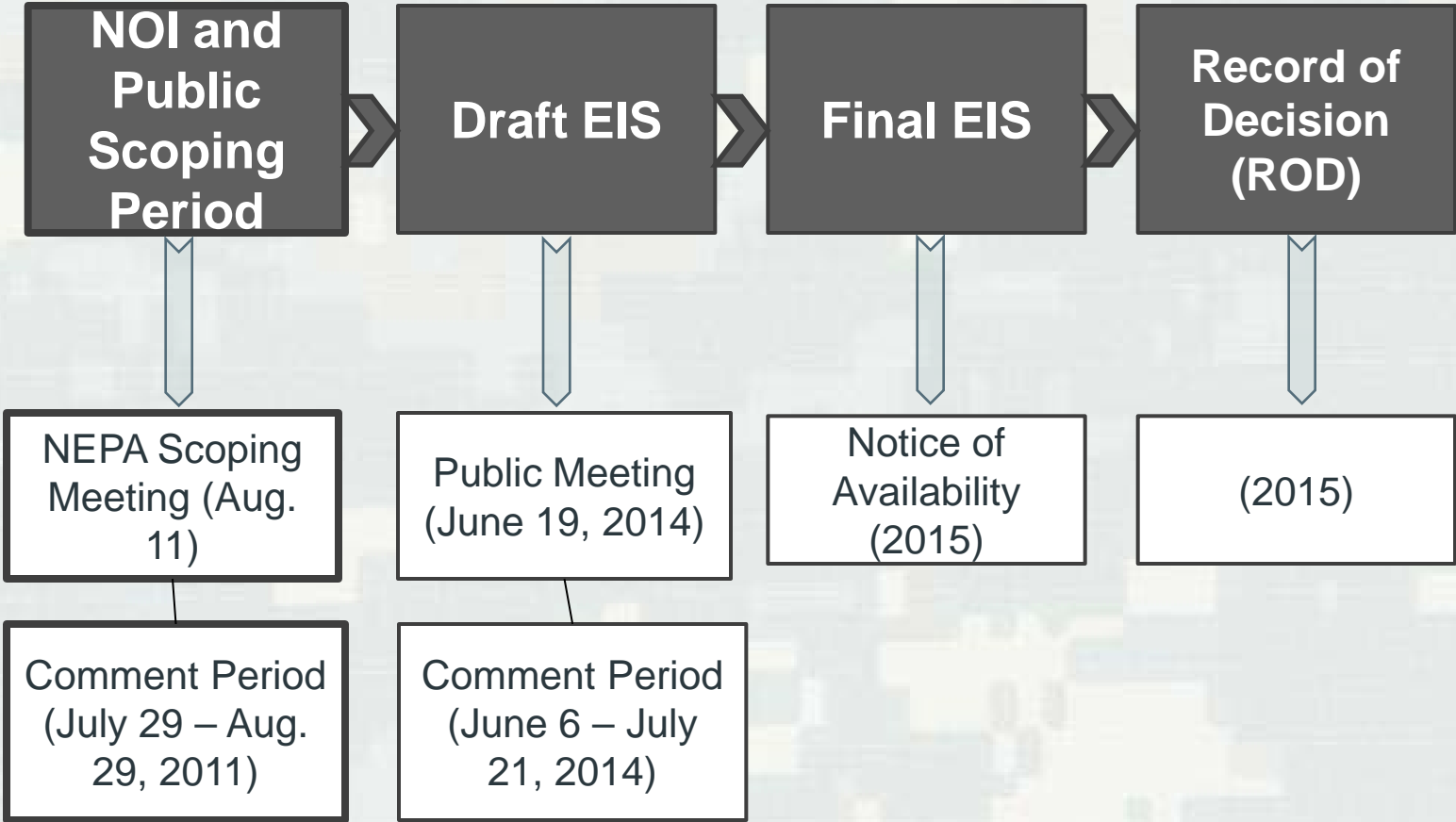


Study Schedule

- Draft FR/EIS public review/comment
 - ▶ June 6 – July 21, 2014
- Future Corps Planning Milestones:
 - ▶ Agency Decision Milestone – Fall 2014
 - ▶ Civil Works Review Board – 2015
 - ▶ Final Report – 2015
- Future steps:
 - ▶ Congressional Authorization & Appropriations
 - ▶ Pre-Construction, Engineering, and Design
 - ▶ Construction



NEPA EIS Steps



Draft FR/EIS and Commenting

For more information or to submit comments:

Mail:

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Comments must be received by July 21, 2014.



Tonight's Formal Comment Period

- Individuals who have signed up will comment first (3 minutes/person)
- State and spell your name prior to providing your comment
- Time permitting, additional comments from others
- All comments are on the record and will be recorded
- Verbal & written comments will be included in the Final Report



Thank you for attending!

- Comments must be received by July 21, 2014
- Draft FR/EIS is available in the La Conner, Burlington, and Mount Vernon Libraries; Skagit County Office
- Draft FR/EIS is also available online at: <http://1.usa.gov/1i0Kjzk>

Submit comments:

► Mail:

Ms. Hannah Hadley

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