



## Meeting Summary Skagit CFHMP Combined Technical Committee Orientation Meeting

Tuesday, February 19, 2007  
5:30 p.m. – 8:00 p.m.

**Location:** Skagit Station

### Meeting Purpose:

- To bring together Technical Committee members to learn about the process and vision for developing the Skagit River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan (CFHMP);
- Hear a presentation about the history of Skagit River Flooding;
- Meet other Technical Committee members and the Plan Consultant team; and
- Hold initial individual Technical Committee meetings to begin formation process and discuss topics of interest.

### Action Items

- Next Meetings: Originally individual Technical Committee meetings but since changed to an all Technical Committee meeting, **March 31, 2008, 4:00-7:15 p.m.**, Skagit County Offices
- Agenda for next meeting includes:
  - Educational sessions on:
    - Relationship between the Corp of Engineers Skagit River General Investigation Study and the Skagit River CFHMP and
    - What is a CFHMP? – Contents, what Ecology looks for, etc.
  - Eventually need for individual Technical Committee meetings with the goal of electing Chair/Vice Chair and Advisory Committee members.

### Plenary Meeting Notes

#### Introductions and Welcome

Welcome, introductions, and brief comments regarding the vision for this CFHMP planning effort were given by:

- Jim Voetberg, Skagit County Public Works Director
- Chairman and County Commissioner Don Munks, District 1
- County Commissioner Ken Dahlstedt, District 2
- County Commissioner Sharon Dillon, District 3

Chairman Munks also stated the six 'Guiding Principles' for developing an update to the Skagit River CFHMP.

#### Presentations

Dan Berentson, Skagit County Director of Communications, provided a slide presentation about history of Skagit River flooding.

Ric Boge, Skagit County Surface Water Manager, discussed the path forward and role of the Technical Committees in the Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Planning effort. Ric emphasized that the organizational structure established by the County Commissioners is intended to encourage development of a community-based flood hazard plan. This process will be closely coordinated with the Corps of Engineers General Investigation (GI); in fact many portions of the GI study will feed directly into the CFHMP and visa-versa.

Ric reviewed the organizational structure that consists of the Board of Supervisors, Advisory Committee, and Technical Committees for Land Use, Environmental, and Dike & Drainage. He emphasized that once the Advisory Committee has formed, it will guide development of the CFHMP. The Technical Committees will respond to assignments from the Advisory Committee and may also provide suggestions/recommendations for the Advisory Committee to consider. Actual writing of the updated CFHMP will be done primarily by County staff assisted by the Tetra Tech consultant team.

Tom Karsh, Public Works Special Projects, introduced the Tetra Tech consultant team, who will be assisting the Advisory and Technical Committees, as well as the County, in developing the revised CFHMP. He also introduced Roger Ridgeway, Skagit County facilitator, who will also be assisting the committees in the early planning process.

Cynthia Carlstad, Tetra Tech, provided a brief presentation about CFHMPs, describing the following aspects:

- CFHMP is a community-based planning tool
- Once adopted, projects recommended through the CFHMP can be funded through State grants and loans
- There are three phases in developing a CFHMP:
  1. Documenting existing conditions.
  2. Identifying potential solutions and evaluating them.
  3. Developing and adopting the recommended Plan.

### Questions, Comments, and Responses

Following these presentations, Bob Wheeler, Tetra Tech team, opened the floor for questions and comments, noting that for the most part, questions and comments would be documented and addressed when answers were available.

Specific needs, comments and questions were documented and include:

- How much funding is there from Ecology?
  - *Response:* Around \$280,000
- What are the regulatory requirements?
- Has the existing Plan (1989) been reviewed?
  - *Response:* Yes, staff are aware of this study and have reviewed it
- What base flood elevation will be used?

- Will there be a project Web site?
  - *Response:* Yes, staff are working on setting a web site up
- How will the Advisory Committee make decisions?
  - *Response:* Advisory Committee operating rules and procedures have been established by the County Commissioners
- What will the role of the previous CFHMP be - 1989 version?
  - *Response:* The 1989 plan was one of the first CFHMP's in the State.
  - *Response:* It pre-dated the Ecology Guidance Document.
- Board of Supervisors is equivalent with the County Commissioners.
- What is the relationship with this process and the FEMA maps project?
  - *Response:* FEMA maps are for flood insurance purposes.
  - *Response:* The *base* flood level will be resolved through the FEMA study.
- How does this interface with a City's flood control/hazard projects?
  - *Response:* City projects will be included and incorporated into the CFHMP.
- What is the schedule?
  - *Response:* The draft Plan should be completed in approximately 18 months.
- General comment - Get all the projects on the table, then sort out what makes sense to do.
- General comment - FEMA is assessing current risk.
  - *Response:* This Plan is preparing for the future.
- What is the relationship of this CFHMP to the Corp GI Study?
  - *Response:* CFHMP counts for in-kind county contribution to the Skagit GI Study.
  - *Response:* Information is useful for both.
  - *Response:* Early action items will emerge.
  - *Response:* Congressional appropriation is needed for completion/implementation of GI Study. President's budget has not funded the GI for several years. A request was made to show a united commitment from Skagit County for funding.
  - *Response:* Invite to the CFHMP process Congressional representatives to show depth of community support.

At the end of questions and responses, the Technical Committees took a break and reconvened in their separate committees; Dike and Drainage District Technical Committee, Environmental Technical Committee, and Land Use Technical Committee. Meeting notes from each of these separate meetings are attached to these plenary meeting notes.

**Present at Meeting:**

**Technical Committees**

<b>Name</b>	<b>Representing</b>
Bell, Esco	City of Mount Vernon
Bennett, Chuck	Dike, Drainage and Irrigation District 12
Borman, Neil	Skagit County Marine Resources Committee
Boudinot, Bob	Skagit Land Trust
Carey, Bob	The Nature Conservancy
Carlson, Todd	WSDOT
Chamberlain, Dave	Forest Advisory Committee
Chesterfield, Blaine	City of Mount Vernon
Easton, Jason	Washington Realtors
Eliason, Leonard	Dike District 17
Fischer, Polly	Skagit County Marine Resources Committee
Flaig, Dean	Drainage District 21
Fleek, Margaret	City of Burlington
Francois, Charyl	USACE
Freet, Bruce	Skagit Fisheries Enhancement Group
Hamburg, Daryl	Dike District 17
Jacobels, Chemine	USACE
Johnson, Kirk	Skagit County Planning & Development Services
Kelly, Carolyn	Skagit Conservation District
Kilcoyne, Kathy	Natural Resources Conservation Service
Kite, June	Conway Area
Lipse, Ed	Cockreham Island Area
Middleton, Jack	Interested party - Bayview area resident
Nelson, Stanley	Dike District 22
O'Donnell, Dan	LaConner Area
Olson, Brian	Drainage and Irrigation District 17
Olson, David	Dike District 3
Pflug, Dave	Seattle City Light
Raines, Mary	Skagit Watershed Council
Schroeder, James	The Nature Conservancy
Slocum, Tom	Skagit Conservation District
Smith, Linda	USACE

Steele, Chuck  
Stevens, Terry  
Swanson, Robert  
Towne, Dave  
Wasserman, Larry

DOE  
Padilla Bay National Estuarine Research Reserve  
Dike, Drainage and Irrigation District 20  
Britt Slough SFCZD  
Swinomish Indian Tribe

**Consultants**

**Name**

Carlstad, Cynthia  
Wheeler, Bob

**Representing**

Tetra Tech  
Triangle Associates

**County Staff**

**Name**

Aurand, Erick  
Berentson, Dan  
Boge, Ric  
Dahlstedt, Ken  
Dillon, Sharon  
Ellestad, Lorna  
Karsh, Tom  
MacMullen, Meghan  
McLeod, Delores  
Miller, Jeff  
Munks, Don  
Ridgway, Roger  
Rowe, Gary  
See, Mike  
Voetberg, Jim

**Representing**

Skagit County Public Works  
Skagit County Public Works  
Skagit County Public Works  
Skagit County  
Skagit County  
Skagit County Public Works  
Skagit County Public Works  
Skagit County Public Works  
Skagit County Public Works  
Skagit County  
Skagit County Mediation Services  
Skagit County  
Skagit County Public Works  
Skagit County Public Works