



Skagit River Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan Update

Skagit County Flood Control Zone District Environmental Technical Committee Meeting

February 23, 2009 9:00 am – 12:00 pm
Skagit Conservation District “Ag” meeting room
Located at 2021 E. College Way

Meeting Purpose—Review and provide input back to the Advisory Committee on recent task assignments provided to the Technical Committees. Submit back to the County by March 4th.

MEETING NOTES

Pre-9:00 am Sign in

January ETC committee meeting notes: Environmental TC members Stan Walsh, Carolyn Kelly, Neil Borman, Terry Stevens, James Schroeder, Bob Boudinot, Bruce Freet and Jon-Paul met and completed the first round of tier one ranking of the Skagit GI measures as presented at the August 18, 2008 Workshop and as requested by the AC. (AC Task Assignment 1-20-09) The members present chose to go with awarding red, yellow or green to the measures depending on how well they met the four fatal flaw criteria. An effort was also made to identify what it would take to turn a red to yellow if certain changes were made or design features were incorporated into the proposed measure. It was more efficient to reference initial comments made on earlier measures than to construct new ones hence the frequent references to # 11, # 12, etc. The easiest way to earn a red was to propose new hardened structures along the river and or fail to remove or modify existing hardened structures. Even most greens elicited some suggestions/requirements.

Key point: No new bank armoring; existing bank armoring needs to be removed with minor excavation as needed to install effective fish habitat features.

The group met for 4 and 1/2 hours but still ran out of time and didn't get to the point of grouping individual measures into alternatives. During the discussion, the Group added an additional restoration measure (24A) intended to include wetland and slough restoration opportunities associated with many of the measures. There also wasn't time to fully explore additional projects but Jon-Paul came prepared with the concept of the flood attenuation possibilities of tributaries.

New Projects: Habitat restoration projects in Upper basin tributaries could be evaluated for habitat restoration projects with flood damage reduction potential. Benefits include reduction in sedimentation and LWD (mass wasting) and increased off channel flood water attenuation (storage). Possible locations include Hansen, Coal, Wiseman, Jones creeks etc. Sources of information include but are not limited to the Chinook Recovery Plan, the Skagit Watershed Council strategy document and “Three year list”. (More detail needed)

This information was distributed to the full ETC for review and concurrence before submitting the document to the AC for consideration their meeting on February 18th. Doc E – Measures Input.

- 9:00 am Introductions / Roll Call and Meeting Purpose**
- 9:05 am Public Comments**
- 9:10 am Consideration and acceptance of Technical Committee Meeting summary and Tier one screening results from January 26th meeting - Handouts**
- 9:20 am Report out from AC representatives attending 2/18 AC meeting and instructions for task assignments due March 4th - Handout**

Task assignments: Submit Final by 5:00 p.m. on March 4, 2009

1. Provide further input on project fatal flaw screening criteria (using Advisory Committee Working Document including motion for “three ‘E’s’”), specifically addressing questions directed to them.
 - a. Suggestion: Prepare statement on purpose of screening criteria ie. to provide input on issues important to individual technical committees and member organizations.
2. Provide any additional input on measures using Advisory Committee Document E. Advisory Committee requested more detail on non-structural measures.
3. Complete previous task assignment (01/20/09 handout). 1) Provide any additional information on local projects requested to be considered, and 2) develop suggestions for alternatives

11:30 am Revisit monthly meeting schedule and facilitation of AC assignments and ETC review timeline (example current March 4th due date).

11:45 am Other comments to include at AC report out

12:00 pm Adjourn

For more information contact:

TC Chairman, Stan Walsh, (360) 466-7228 or

Lorna Ellestad, Skagit County Public Works, Surface Water Management, (360) 336-9400.