

# Mill Creek

## Alternatives Analysis and Design

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UPDATE #2

Through January 2025

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### OVERVIEW

South Skagit Highway, a Skagit County owned road, travels along the South side of the Skagit River and crosses over Mill Creek near milepost 18. This section of roadway is within the floodplain of the Skagit River and the alluvial fans of Mill and Savage Creeks resulting in routine flooding and damage to the road. The Mill Creek bridge is too small for sediment transport and the Savage Creek culvert is a partial barrier to fish passage. The County began working on this project in 2004 with a sediment and flood management report. In partnership with the Skagit River System Cooperative an alternatives analysis was completed in 2015. The County is currently assessing various alternatives to improve the road and fish passage/habitat in this area. To find a detailed history of the project please refer to the website or Update #1 found [here](#).

This phase of work is expected to be completed December 2025.

All updates can be found on the Mill Creek website which is located at:

<https://www.skagitcounty.net/Departments/PublicWorksSurfaceWaterManagement/MillCreekFeasibilityStudy.htm>

### UPDATES

- *Funding* –
  - Skagit County is applying for funding through the NOAA Fish Passage Barrier grant. This is due February 10<sup>th</sup>. We intend to apply for the Transformational Habitat grant due in April as well.
- *Design* –
  - KPFF and their subs have worked very hard to complete an alternatives analysis. This was shared with the County in early January.
  - The current proposal includes relocating the road south of its current location and installing new crossings at Mill and Savage Creeks.
- *Communication and Stakeholder Outreach* –
  - Skagit County staff has continued outreach to most of the adjacent property owners.
  - Letters were sent to all neighbors within 400' of the project area in November 2024. Only one response was received. We are hopeful additional interest occurs.

### UPCOMING

County staff are planning to present the alternatives to the Board of County Commissioners in March. Staff will continue discussions with affected and interested parties.