



# SKAGIT COUNTY PUBLIC WORKS DEPARTMENT

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## **Skagit River General Investigation Project Status Summary February 26, 2013**

In 2012, the Skagit River General Investigation (GI) Project Delivery Team (PDT) presented six preliminary alternatives to the community to solicit feedback. The six alternatives were then narrowed down to three at the Alternatives Milestone Meeting, a vertical team meeting that included the non-federal sponsor (Skagit County), USACE Division, District, and Headquarters.

The PDT is now analyzing the three alternatives. The USACE is overseeing a contract with Northwest Hydraulic Consultants (NHC) to examine the effectiveness of three alternatives:

- Joe Leary Slough Bypass/Overland Flow
  - Concept: Remove floodwaters from river system upstream of three bridge corridor and high economic damage areas. Either channel water (bypass) or guide water (overland flow) towards Joe Leary Slough which outlets into Padilla Bay.
- Swinomish Bypass/Overland Flow
  - Concept: Remove floodwaters from river system just downstream of three bridge corridor on the right bank. Either channel water (bypass) or guide water (overland flow) towards Swinomish Slough which outlets into Padilla Bay.
- Levee Setbacks
  - Concept: Increase conveyance of floodwaters throughout the river system by setting back levees and modifying river bridges.

Each alternative contains individual projects and non-structural components that work in concert for a comprehensive solution to flood risk management, such as Puget Sound Energy's Baker Project Dam Storage and city/town specific flood walls and levees.

NHC's current tasks include:

- Optimizing the hydraulic model at the BNSF bridge crossing
- Analysis of early season flood storage at Upper Baker
- Analysis of flood storage at Lower Baker
- Hydraulic modeling of the 3 alternatives
- Update the USACE Hydrology and Hydraulics Technical Reports
- Creating model inputs for damage assessment

General Timeline:

Spring 2013:	Alternative Analysis/Compare Alternatives
Summer 2013:	Tentatively Selected Plan Milestone
Spring 2014:	USACE Decision Milestone
Fall 2014:	Submit Final Draft of Integrated Feasibility Study/EIS
Spring 2015:	Chief's Report Finalized