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TIDE LAND ACREAGE NEAR ANACORTES TO BE RECLAIMED

ANACORTES COMPANY TO DIKE AND DRAIN 12,000 ACRES OF TIDE LANDS IN PADILLA BAY DISTRICT

To change twelve thousand acres of overflowed tide lands into tillable farms is the aim of a number of Anacortes business men who recently formed a company known as the Padilla Bay Development company. This company has purchased from the state of Washington about 12,000 acres of tidelands in the Padilla bay district, near Anacortes, the lands lying between Samish and the mouth of the Swinomish slough, and including Saddlebag and Hat islands. The diking and draining of this tract will be one of the biggest reclamation projects ever undertaken in this part of the state, but the plan is said to be simple and entirely feasible. Surveys and plans are now being made, and the reclamation dikes will be under construct within a few weeks.

When the reclamation work is completed the company expects to subdivide the tract into small farms, which will be sold to actual settlers. The reclaimed tidelands in Skagit country have proved to be the best kind of farming lands, and the contemplated project will add a large acreage of productive farm land to the tax rolls of the county. A move for the reclamation of the Padilla bay tract was started some years ago and was given up as too expensive, but with improved diking machinery and new methods of draining it is believed that the work can be done at this time at a comparatively small price per acre.