

NEWS RELEASE

December 22, 2015

**MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
411 NORTH 5TH ST
SHELTON, WA 98584
(360) 427-9670 EXT. 419**

TO: KMAS, KRXV, SHELTON-MASON COUNTY JOURNAL, THE OLYMPIAN,
SHELTON CHAMBER OF COMMERCE, NORTH MASON CHAMBER OF
COMMERCE, CITY OF SHELTON, ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCIL,
THE SUN

RE: Skokomish River Levee Repairs Needed

The Mason County Board of County Commissioners is requesting Federal assistance from the Natural Resources Conservation Service Emergency Watershed Protection (EWP) Program to restore damages sustained to a private levee on the Skokomish River in Mason County by the storms of December 5th to December 13, 2015.

The damaged levee is located on the south side of the North Fork and South Fork Skokomish River confluence. Levee failure or potential river avulsion could create a hazard near the 3500 block of Skokomish Valley Road.

The levee has been evaluated by the County Engineer and the Mason Conservation District Engineer who determined that emergency repairs need to be made. This work is needed to safeguard lives and property from potential avulsion hazard and to prevent potential stranding due to impassable water over the roadway.

Valley residents are asked to monitor water over the Skokomish Valley Road near the 3500 block and to alert MACECOM or Mason County Emergency Management if the flow becomes deeper than one foot at this location. Residents should be prepared to shelter in place or evacuate as a safety measure, should this occur.

The repair to the Skokomish River levee will be a joint effort between Mason County, the Mason Conservation District and a private land owner.

BOARD OF MASON COUNTY COMMISSIONERS



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Chair



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Vice Chair



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