

11/9/77

Introduced by: Bob Gaines

77-1053

MOTION NO. 03301

1  
2 A MOTION requesting the United States Army  
3 Corps of Engineers to complete a study of the  
4 White (or Stuck) and Puyallup Rivers flooding  
5 problems to be followed by corrections of the  
6 problems initiated under the jurisdiction of  
7 the Corps of Engineers as soon as possible  
8 thereafter.

9 WHEREAS, King and Pierce Counties entered into an Inter-  
10 County River Improvement agreement in 1914 to assist in  
11 controlling the flooding on the White (or Stuck) and Puyallup  
12 Rivers, and

13 WHEREAS, the Corps of Engineers has built two projects to  
14 assist in controlling flooding along the White (or Stuck) and the  
15 lower Puyallup Rivers, namely, Mud Mountain Dam on the White  
16 River near Enumclaw, completed in 1953, and channel and levee  
17 improvements along the lower Puyallup River near Tacoma,  
18 completed in 1950, and

19 WHEREAS, the Corps of Engineers under authority of a  
20 resolution the United States Senate Public Works Committee  
21 adopted May, 1968 began investigations on the Puyallup River in  
22 1970 which resulted in a November, 1972 Flood Control Study of  
23 the Puyallup River and its tributaries with detailed attention to  
24 solutions at Orting, and

25 WHEREAS, the overall study of the Puyallup River and its  
26 tributaries ceased before completion in 1975 due to a lack of  
27 appropriations by Congress, and

28 WHEREAS, the interests and legal requirements of those  
29 interests involved in this river area have blocked major action  
30 to solve the gravel sedimentation in the river area, namely:

31 1. The Court decisions on Indian lands and rivers  
32 affecting the White River through the Muckleshoot Indian  
33 Reservation.

2. The Department of Fisheries

3. The Department of Game

4. The Department of Ecology

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1 5. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

2 6. King County

3 7. Pierce County

4 8. The Cities and Towns of Auburn, Algona, Pacific, Sumner,  
5 Puyallup and Orting, and

6 9. Puget Sound Power and Light with its White River  
7 Project consisting of a low diversion dam near Buckley, a series  
8 of flumes, canals and settling basins leading to Lake Tapps, and  
9 a powerhouse located near Dieringer, and,

10 WHEREAS, the Inter-County River Improvement Agreement (ICRI)  
11 between King and Pierce Counties resulted in major construction  
12 works between 1914 and 1921 with provisions for ICRI employees to  
13 maintain the channel and related works thereafter, and

14 WHEREAS, due to many problems, such as noted below, the ICRI  
15 has informed the U.S. Corps of Engineers that they would no  
16 longer be able to maintain the channel capacity as agreed prior  
17 to the construction of the Mud Mountain Dam, namely:

18 1. Lack of state matching funds,

19 2. Funding for necessary local projects has become more  
20 difficult due to other county needs,

21 3. The Muckelshoot Tribe Access Agreement has stopped all  
22 work on the White River bordering the Muckleshoot Reservation,

23 4. Permit requirements by many agencies have restricted the  
24 ICRI's ability to perform the necessary maintenance of the  
25 channel,

26 5. Projects have been delayed due to the lack of the ICRI  
27 schedules for channel maintenance operations to coincide with low  
28 flow periods, and

29 6. Negotiations with the Department of Natural Resources  
30 over gravel royalties for removal of the gravel bar in the White  
31 (or Stuck) River near Pacific, where two young girls were  
32 drowned on July 15, 1976, have delayed its removal, and

33 WHEREAS, Congress is working on an appropriation for the

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1 U.S. Army Corps of Engineers to fund an evaluation of the  
2 proposed solutions to these problems.

3 NOW THEREFORE, BE IT MOVED by the Council of King County:

4 The United States Army Corps of Engineers is hereby  
5 requested to complete a study of the White (or Stuck) and  
6 Puyallup Rivers flooding problems with an evaluation of the  
7 alternative possible solutions, which will serve as a basis for  
8 correcting the problems to be initiated under the U.S. Corps of  
9 Engineers' jurisdiction as soon as possible after the completion  
10 of the study.

11 BE IT FURTHER MOVED,

12 A copy of this motion be sent to the Washington, D.C. and  
13 Seattle offices of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, to the  
14 Pierce County Commissioners and Senator Warren G. Magnuson's  
15 office in Seattle and Washington, D.C.

16 PASSED this 14th day of November, 1977.

17  
18 KING COUNTY COUNCIL  
19 KING COUNTY, WASHINGTON

20 Mike Lowry  
21 Chairman

22 ATTEST:

23 Jeanette M. Quinn  
24 Deputy Clerk of the Council  
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