



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Seattle District

Special Public Notice

Regulatory Branch
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Public Notice Date: January 5, 2024

ANNOUNCEMENT: Special processing procedures for NWS-2023-840; Skagit Drainage and Irrigation District 16 (Tidegate #25 Repair: Gate Replacement)

BACKGROUND: Per 33 CFR 325.2(e)(4), Division engineers are authorized to approve special processing procedures in emergency situations. An “emergency” is a situation which would result in an unacceptable hazard to life, a significant loss of property, or an immediate, unforeseen, and significant economic hardship if corrective action requiring a permit is not undertaken within a time period less than the normal time needed to process the application under standard procedures. In emergency situations, the district engineer will explain the circumstances and recommend special procedures to the division engineer who will instruct the district engineer as to further processing of the application. Even in an emergency situation, reasonable efforts will be made to receive comments from interested Federal, state, and local agencies and the affected public. Also, notice of any special procedures authorized and their rationale is to be appropriately published as soon as practicable.

PURPOSE: The purpose of this Special Public Notice is to publish the special processing procedures undertaken for the above-referenced project.

EMERGENCY WORK: Emergency work to repair a damaged tidegate in an unnamed tidal drainage to Edison Slough at Edison in Skagit County, Washington. The emergency work is depicted on the enclosed drawings dated November 20, 2023.

DETERMINATION: The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Seattle District (Seattle District) determined the proposed emergency work met the above definition of an “emergency” and coordinated with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers’ Northwestern Division (NWD) Commander for approval to implement special processing procedures. On December 14, 2023, the NWD Commander approved use of special processing procedures.

SPECIAL PROCESSING PROCEDURES: The Seattle District shall:

1. Ensure only the minimal amount of work is proposed to remedy the emergency.
2. Notify appropriate resource agencies and Tribes for their recommendations to minimize impacts to be considered for possible inclusion in the emergency authorization.

3. Special conditions can be added to the emergency authorization to ensure impacts are minimized.
4. After emergency authorization is granted, Seattle District will publish a public notice of these procedures.
5. Additional coordination with agencies and tribes may occur as necessary to complete certain processes after the emergency authorization is granted.

On December 21, 2023, emergency authorization was granted to the applicant. Publication of this public notice is part of the special processing procedures.



North

Skagit Drainage and Irrigation District 16
Tidegate #25 Repair: Gate Replacement
Edison Washington
Revised November 20, 2023

Project Location Map
48.560891, -122.445456



Skagit Drainage and Irrigation District 16
Tidegate #25 Repair: Gate Replacement
Edison Washington
Revised November 20, 2023

Site Photos



Plan view showing all three 48-inch diameter tidegates at this location at low tide. Damage tidegate lid is on outlet of the westerly pipe



Damaged tidegate. Nov. 8, 2023

Site Photos



Tidegates at low tide, July 25, 2008. Damaged
Tidegate is at left



Complex 25 July 29, 2008

Tidegates at low tide, July 25, 2008. Damaged
Tidegate is at bottom

Skagit Drainage and Irrigation District 16
Tidegate #25 Repair: Gate Replacement
Edison Washington
Revised November 20, 2023

Site Photos



Plan view showing backflow salt water flooding during emergency response. Nov. 8, 2023.

NWS 2023-840
Sheet 4 of 7



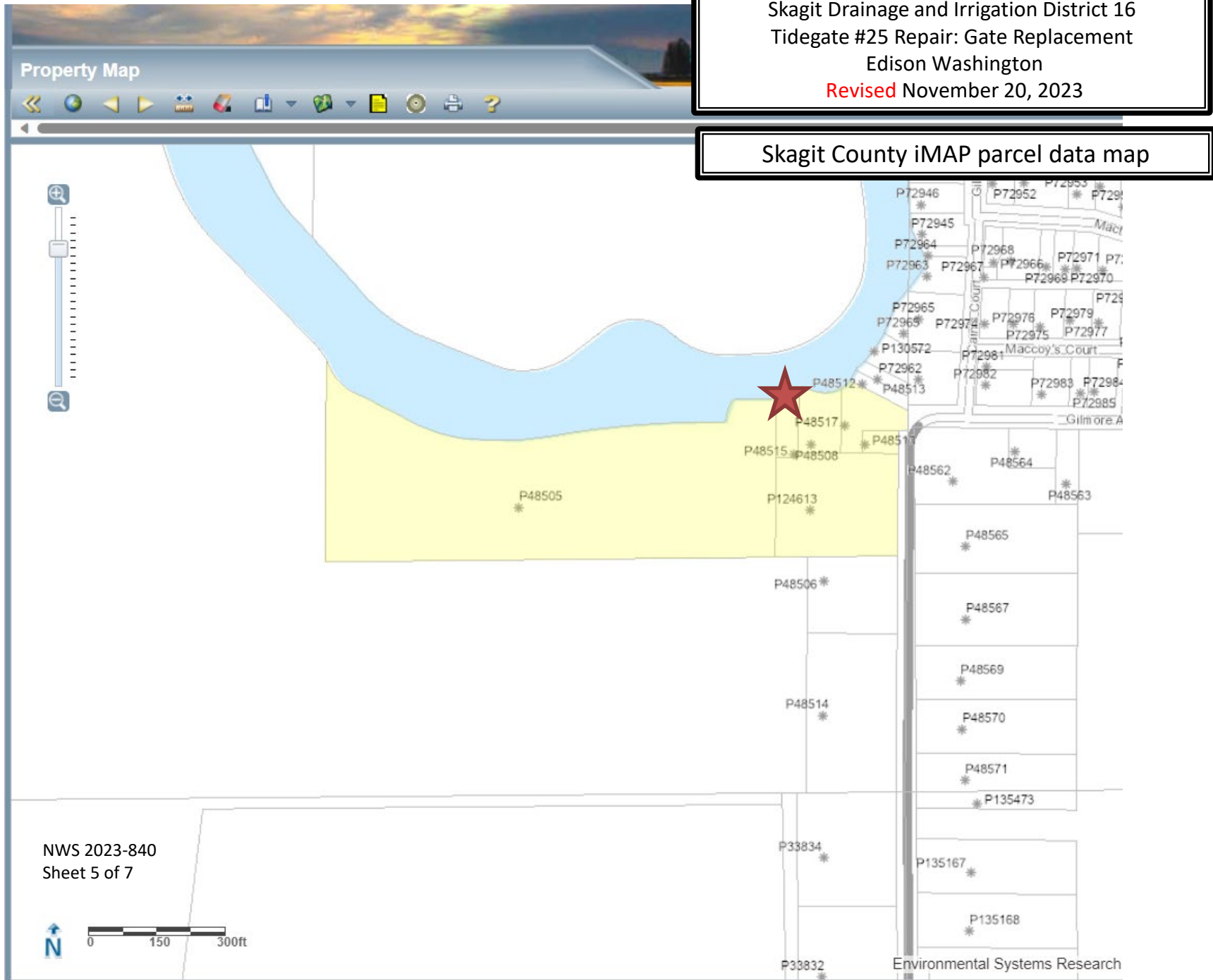
Project site looking south at pipe outlets. Nov. 16, 2023 at 12:45 PM. NOAA Tide Prediction at 9449211 Bellingham is 7.20 ft – close to the MHW of 7.87. Tidegate are still submerged by approximately 1 ft.

Skagit Drainage and Irrigation District 16
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Skagit County iMAP parcel data map

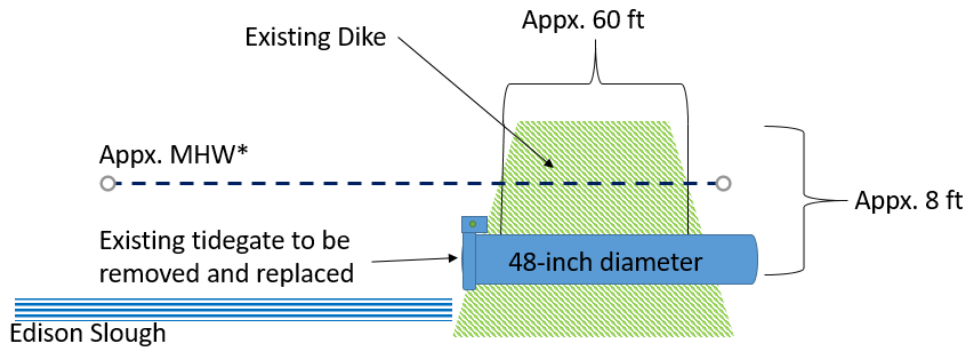


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Skagit Drainage and Irrigation District 16
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Existing Tidegate #25 Infrastructure



*MHW is difficult to determine because of existing rip rap; MHW El. is estimated to be 7.87-ft MLLW, based on the Bellingham Bay tide station data. At an appx. -2.0 ft tide, the bottom of the existing pipe is above the waterline, so it is assumed that the existing pipes are below the MHW as approximately depicted on the figure.



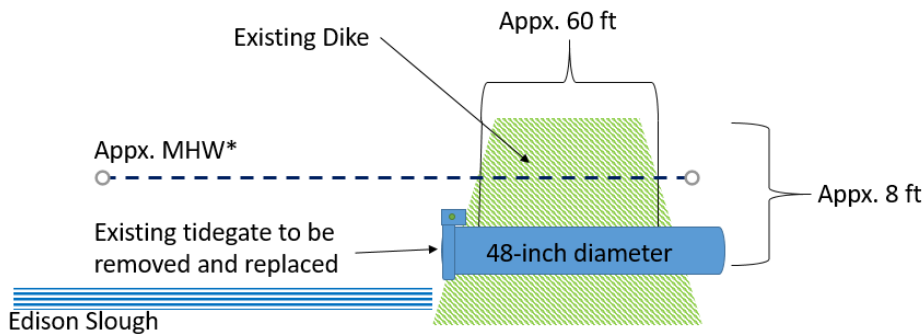
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Proposed Repair Tidegate #25



North



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Damaged Tidegate

Estimated Low Tide

Staging Area

Construction Sequence

- 1) Tidegate will be detached with hand tools and removed with straps and backhoe are during low tide
- 2) A new tidegate will be placed into position and attached with hand tools during the same low tide