

Friends of Skagit County is Going for broke!

On July 14th the Skagit County Board of Commissioners can say “no” to the wetland mitigation bank project proposed by Skagit Environmental Farm (Clear Valley).

To stop the conversion of 396 acres of Nookachamps farmland to a commercial mitigation bank, *Friends* must continue to appeal the permits issued by the County.

■ **FACT:** The County’s emergency moratorium on wetland mitigation banks does not apply to the Clear valley Project.

■ **FACT:** The Clear Valley project cannot proceed if, after the July 14th appeal hearing, the Board of County Commissioners agrees with the *Friends* appeal.

■ **FACT:** All other appellants have withdrawn their appeals and/or settled with the Clear Valley developers.

■ **FACT:** The out-of-state developers of this project stand to make \$31 million dollars.

■ **FACT:** The Clear Valley project could increase flooding. There are no guarantees.

■ **FACT:** Federal and state agencies acknowledge that less than 50% of all wetland mitigation projects function adequately.

Converting local farmland to engineered bogs so developers can destroy natural wetlands is an insult to our environment and our farmers.

Wetland banks eliminate some of the richest agricultural soils in the world and, at the same time, wipe out wetlands on other building sites. Farms and upstream properties in the Nookachamps area — including Big Lake — are at risk.

If you call Skagit Valley home, help us defend and save the land that grows local and safe food for our families.

We need to raise \$8,000 before July 14th. Unless everyone chips in, the Clear Valley project will proceed.

***Friends* is willing to do whatever we can to stop the Clear Valley project. But we desperately need your immediate help.**

Please send your check today to:
P.O. Box 1232, Mt Vernon WA 98273.

Or make a donation with your credit card by logging on to the *Friends* website at:
www.friendsofskogitcounty.org

Ask your family and neighbors to contribute to this cause. It will take all of us to save this farmland and put a stop to the needless destruction of Skagit Valley farms and wetlands in the future.

PLEASE ... don't let *Friends* down!