## **Chehalis River Basin**

Reducing Flood Damage <u>and</u> Restoring Aquatic Species

6:30 p.m.

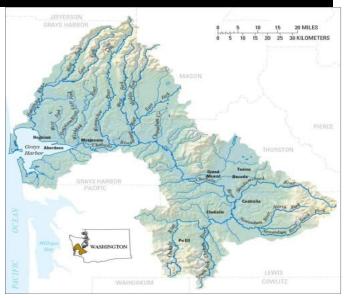
August 26, 2015

**City of Aberdeen** 

## Today's Presentation . . .

- Provide update, encourage discussion.
- Key messages . . .

**1. Broad agreement --** For first time in a century there is progress across the Basin on <u>next steps to</u> reduce flood damage and enhance salmon, aquatic <u>species</u>.



**2.** Basin-wide strategy -- An <u>action-oriented</u>, <u>multi-phased</u> Basin-wide strategy is needed to protect communities along the river and to enhance aquatic species.

**3.** Collaboration is key -- WA Legislature, Governor's Office, Governor's Chehalis Basin Work Group, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority, and WA Agencies all working together = <u>Action</u>!

4. Fundamental principle -- Solving one's problems doesn't increase another's.

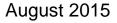


#### Action . . .



**Photo Source:** THE CHRONICLE  $\rightarrow$ 





## "Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority"

- Formed in 2008
- Formal body focused on: (1) flood hazard mitigation throughout the Basin; and (2) decision-making that is . . .
  - □ informed by science.
  - protective of Basin residents/communities.
  - environmentally appropriate.

#### Basin jurisdictions represented

- Grays Harbor County
  - City of Aberdeen
  - City of Cosmopolis
  - City of Montesano
  - City of Oakville

- Lewis County
  - City of Centralia
  - City of Chehalis
  - City of Napavine
  - Town of Pe Ell August 2015



• Town of Bucoda





## "Governor's Chehalis Basin Work Group"

- Appointed by Gov. Gregoire (2012); Re-confirmed by Gov. Inslee (2013).
- Role = Develop/oversee Basin-wide strategy, funding authorizations (2015-17).
  - □ Flood Retention Dam in paired with <u>Airport Levee Improvements</u>.
  - Basin-wide <u>Aquatic Species Restoration</u>.
  - High-priority, small-scale Local Flood Damage Reduction Projects.
  - □ Local Land Use Management and Local Floodproofing.

#### Members are:

- □ Vickie Raines (Grays Harbor Commissioner, Chair Flood Authority).
- Karen Valenzuela (Former Thurston County Commissioner, Former Vice-Chair Flood Authority)
- Don Secena (Chair Chehalis Tribe).
- □ J. Vander Stoep (Private Attorney, Pe Ell Alternate Flood Authority).
- Steve Malloch (Western Water Futures)
- □ Jay Gordon (President Washington Dairy Federation and Chehalis Farmer).
- □ Rob Duff (Governor's Natural Resources and Environment Advisor).



#### 2007 Storm -- \$938M Basin-wide damage, \$300M lost economic activity (WA).



Exit 77 (I-5) in Chehalis STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES



**City of Centralia STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES** 



Photos Source: LEWIS COUNTY, **DIVISION OF EMERGENCY** MANAGEMENT



MIKE

AP

State Route 6, West of Adna

SALSBURY /

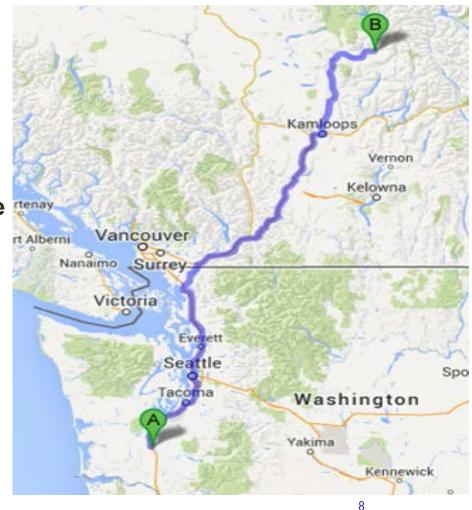
#### 2007 Flood -- I-5 and Hwy 507 Interchange looking South.



**City of Centralia and I-5** STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES



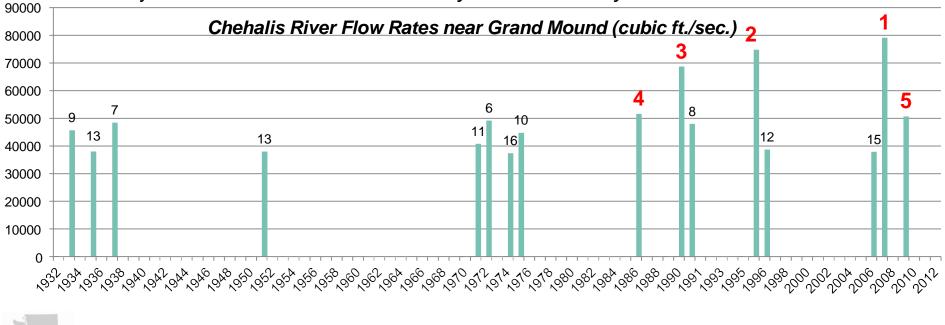
- 289,983 acre feet of measured water (12/03-08/2007).
- Equivalent to covering roadway between Chehalis and North of Kamloops with 1 foot of water 1-mile wide or covering ...
  - 80% of Kitsap County.
  - 69% of Clark County.
  - 59% of Thurston County.





#### Ranked high flow events (1932 - 2012) ...

- □ I-5 closed 1990, 1996, 2007, 2009.
- □ Five largest events since 1986 -- Frequent floods are getting worse and damage is increasing . . .
- □ 100 year flood estimate -- Increased by 33% in last 30 years.

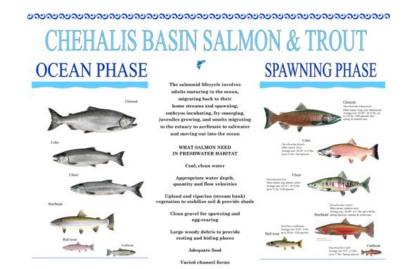




- Chehalis is the second largest river basin in the state, rich in natural resources . . .
- Salmon populations are 15-25% of historic levels.
- TMDL for the basin (<u>http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/ChehalisRvrTMDLSummary.html</u>).



Upper Chehalis (5/31/2010) JAMES E. WILCOX / WILD GAME FISH CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL



www.chehalisbasinpartnership.org



#### Salmon-habitat potential

Species	Current Spawner	Habitat Degradation	
Spring Chinook Salmon	2,300	78%	
Fall Chinook Salmon	24,317	45%	
Coho Salmon	42,000	69%	
Winter-run Steelhead	8,700	44%	

Source: Chehalis Basin Strategy: Reducing Flood Damage and Restoring Aquatic Species; Pe Ell Public Meeting; 10/14/2014; Page 13.



## Solution = Basin-wide Approach

#### Action-oriented. Multi-phased Approach

- 1. Basin-Wide Relationships
- 2. Hydraulic Understanding
- 3. Master Strategy (Game Plan)
- 4. Large Capitol Projects
- 5. Small-Scale Local Projects
- 6. Land Use, Floodplain Management
- 7. Restore Salmon and Aquatic Species
- 8. Early Flood Warning
- 9. Outreach, Education and Communication

#### Chehalis Basin Strategy: Reducing Flood Damage and Restoring Aquatic Species

For the first time-after over a century of catastrophic floods and hundreds of studies-broad agreement is building on a comprehensive strategy to reduce flood damage, restore salmon populations, and support the prosperity of communities in the Chehalis Basin



The problems in the Chehalis Basin are real and action is being taken no to protect communities and restore aquatic species.

Frequent Floods Are Getting Worse and Damage Is Increasing. The five largest floods in the United states y have mounted during the period 20 years, nativing measurements of the bring matter any first loss on , and bringes. Each of the recent floats a cosed +5 for days. Ginate charge multiple from the the nt intreases in peek introd levels over the next tents, y, and a recent te oods will exceed \$7.5 billion in the next 120 years if no action is taken



Salmon Populations are Seriously Degraded and Continue to Decline. The naturel resources of the Cheholis Basin have supported furthe mentions for containes and construe to provide value to both the tribs and on tribs - seconds of the Ricch. The Chene is Racin supports Reasonables of a end numerous other equation accise, including the most diverse disting of appricasing Wednigton State, All of these species are similies ally desvaped with salmon regulations at 15%-25% of their histo wis, it is service within the current trajectory, coupled with the polectial ots of dimate change, would lead to underserved Species Act listings an cultural losses for tribal, commented, and representional fishers. Inducing the complete loss of Soring ru

Changing the History of Inaction. For a most (0) years, there has been a failure to meaning (ally edd relifiers of senatrophic flooding and significant degradation of squark superior in the Christia fastin. Over 50 or utiles of solential ectors to address flood demoge have seen control deal, with no real charge ... with now. The Christis Siter Basin lood /4 thority has facilitated air umber of construction projects to reduce flood drivings and more are on the way. design.

Implementing a Comprehensive, integrated Approach for Fish and Floods,  $M_{\rm eff}$  device volution of the state of the st A concrete floop retention dam on the upper Chahalis River, paired with improvements to the Chanalis Centralia



October 2015: a differentiation and for and additions required and when service as

or not a point means and in matuation content to 'of an apply a disc. Again 2016 public working a diamatuation content to 'of an trice and this content'. A content of dramaging contractives for participation means in a speeds of the work of the provided mature years.

development of a proget must e LB will provide trians, agent ex, that sho dem, and other interacted particle systematic forum in which to evaluate the a ternatives to meet filed damage reduct on and restantion gos is The ES will a solitificant the Wark Group as they make their head set of recommendations to the Generator





## 1. Basin-Wide Relationships

RIVER BASIN FLOOD AUTHORITY



#### 2. Hydraulic Understanding

- Science-based model -- To inform decision-makers on hydraulic effects of potential flood relief options (at basin-wide and localized scales).
- 108 miles -- Mouth of **Chehalis River** upstream to Pe Ell (108 miles).

Draft Report - Chehalis River Hydraulic Model Development Project

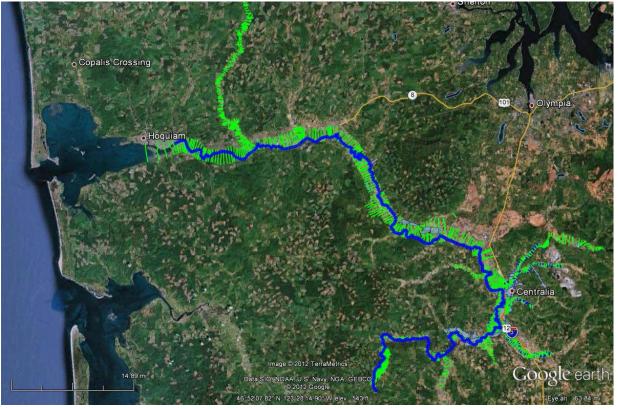








Prepared for: **Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority** 



July 23, 2012

August 2015

14



## 2. Hydraulic Understanding

#### Example: Basinwide effects analysis

(Governor's Chehalis Basin Workgroup, 2014 Recommendations Report, 11/25/2014)

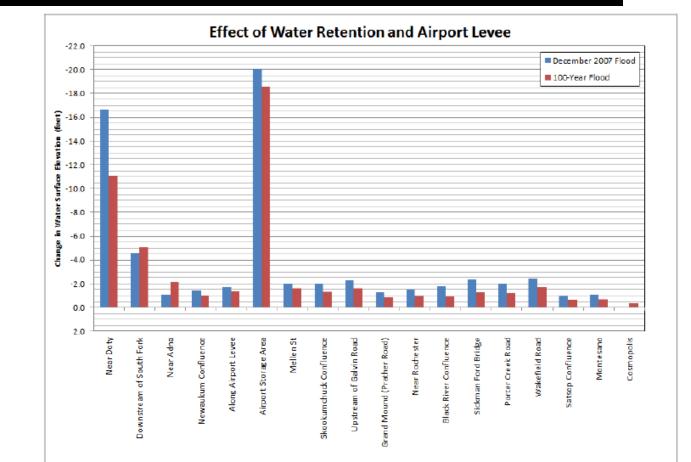


Figure 2: Predicted Changes in Water Surface Elevations from Water Retention and Airport Levee



#### THE CHEHALIS BASIN STRATEGY

For 80 years, little has come from efforts to reduce flood damage in the Chehalis Basin. Now, for the first ime, there is a broadly-supported, Basin-wide process hat is implementing long-sought local projects and eading to a comprehensive strategy to address floodg, while at the same time enhancing aquatic species



CHEHALIS BASIN STRATEGY Governor's Chehalis Basir Work Group

## 3. Master Strategy (Game Plan)

2012, 2013-15 – Framework and Recommendations.

#### **Key elements:**

- Concrete Flood Retention Dam on upper Chehalis River.
- Chehalis-Centralia Municipal Airport Levee Improvements. 2.
- Basin-wide Aquatic Species Restoration (100+ miles spawning/rearing 3. habitat).
- 4. Local <u>Flood-damage Reduction Projects</u>, including raising homes, floodproofing businesses and public structures.
- 5. Local actions to Protect Floodplain Functions, ensure development doesn't exacerbate harm.
- 6. Cost = \$500-600M; Benefit = \$720M (100 yrs.); No Action = \$3.5B (100 yrs.).

2015-17 -- \$50M for formal environmental review, implementation of local early-action (projects, floodproofing, etc.).



August 2015



Chehalis Basin Work Group Celebrates 'Historic Step Forward' on Flooding





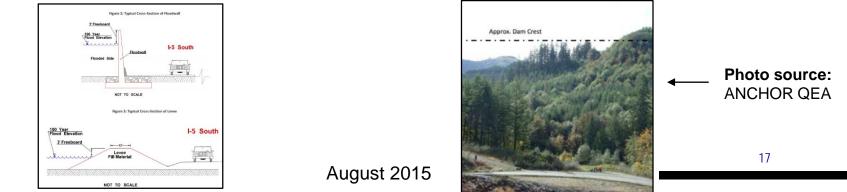
## 4. Large Capitol Projects

#### 2013-15:

- Technical team developed baseline knowledge on safety, feasibility of <u>Flood Retention</u>
  <u>Dam</u> alternatives -- field visits, site and design considerations, world-wide research, etc.
  - Permanent reservoir (w/ fish passage) or Run-of-the-river (no permanent reservoir).
  - Roller compact concrete or Earthen fill.
  - Flood-control only or Multi-purpose.
- □ WSDOT evaluated <u>I-5 Protection</u> alternatives -- levees, walls, raise road, etc.

#### 2015-17:

Formal environmental review (Programmatic EIS) will be conducted to evaluate alternatives and inform Governor's Workgroup on next steps – funding, permitting, etc.



#### Pe Ell Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Dike





## 5. Small-Scale Local Projects

#### 2012 Supplemental Capital Budget:

\$5.0M -- Local projects.

#### 2013-15 Capital Budget:

\$15.1M -- Local projects, aquatic species enhancement.

#### 2015-17 Capital Budget:

\$23.2M -- Local projects, habitat restoration.





#### New Project Boistfort Valley Water District -- Pre-Sedimentation Pond\* Bucoda -- Mainstreet Regrade\*\* Centralia -- China Creek\*\* Chehalis -- Airport Pump\*\* Chehalis - Dillenbaugh Creek Realignment\* Elma -- WWTP Outfall Stabilization Project\* Montesano -- WWTP Wynoochee River Bank Protection Study\*\* Napavine -- Kirkland Road Flooding Study\*\* Ongoing Projects: Aberdeen -- Northside Levee\* Aberdeen -- Southside Dike/Levee Certification Chehalis -- Raise Airport Levee\* Chehalis Tribe -- Allen Creek Restoratio Chebalis Tribe - Oxbow Lake Reconnection Chehalis Tribe -- Oxbow Reconnection at RM 76 Local Capital Cosmopolis -- Mill Creek Dam\* **Construction Projects** Grays Harbor County -- Wishkah Road Floodwall Project\*\* \*\*Requesting 2015-17 Funding FLOOD AUTHORI AA Department of Fish and Wildlife -- Satsop River Floodplain Restoration\*











## 5. Small-Scale Local Projects

#### Mary's River Lumber Bank Stabilization Wall and WWTP Flood Prevention Dike

- □ Mary's River Lumber = 120 family wage jobs.
- □ State Highway (SR 107) = At risk of damage.
- □ Montesano WWTP = Risk of overtopping.
- □ Solutions and Alternative = Balance time, cost, results.
- Project <u>website</u>.











## 5. Small-Scale Local Projects



Local Protection!



Farm Pads, Evacuation Routes

Completed 2012-15 Funding

**Projects Completed** 



August 2015

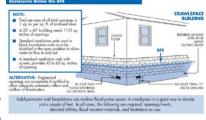
Washington State

**Conservation Commission** 

CHEHALIS

RIVER BASIN

7/24/2015



## 6. Land Use, Floodplain Management

French and Associates under contract.



#### 2013-15: Analyzed local floodplain management programs.

- Do they protect existing homes/businesses?
- Do they ensure new development does not increase flood hazard risk?
- Are there ways to reduce flood insurance rates?
- Are there repeatedly flood damaged properties that should be addressed?

2015-17: Advise Flood Authority, Governor's Workgroup, and Basin communities on:

- Retrofitting buildings to meet flood opening criteria.
- Identify home elevation projects.
- Improving local floodplain management programs.





Chehalis River Basin Basin-Wide Floodplain Management Assessment



November 30, 2014

French & Associates, LTD. 2601 Haveleck Court Steilacoom, WA 98388

## 7. Restore Salmon and Aquatic Species

Chinook Salmon

- Learn more -

#### Salmon:

- At 15-25% historic levels.
- Habitat substantially degraded.



2015-17:

- Collected data (aquatic species, water quality, hydrologic, etc.).
- Analyzed/modelled data to understand relationships (fish, wildlife, water quality, sediment, streamflow, flooding, etc.).

Convene broad group to identify, implement early actions

Remove barriers to fish passage.

Restore off-channel habitat.

Address bank erosion.

Developed "Aquatic Species Enhancement Plan" (8/29/2014). 



Steelhead

- Learn more -

**Snorkel Surveys** 





August 2015



Coho Salmon

- Learn more -

## 7. Restore Salmon and Aquatic Species

## **Other Fish and Aquatic Species**





# Longnose Dace

**Olympic Mudminnow** 

# 6. Milling





August 2015

#### **Oregon Spotted Frog**

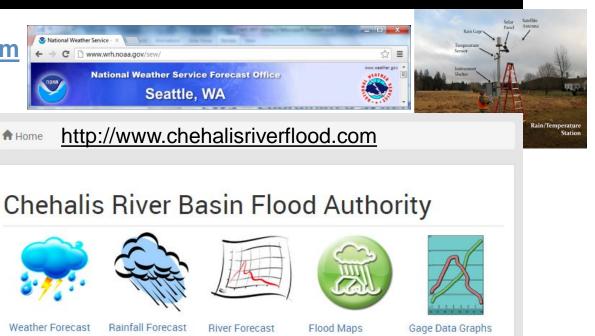




## 8. Early Flood Warning

- www.chehalisriverflood.com
- Front-facing website.
- Data collection, data synchronization.
- Improved forecasting, early-warning.







Gage Data Maps



Flood Authority

News



**Road Conditions** 



**USGS Gages** 

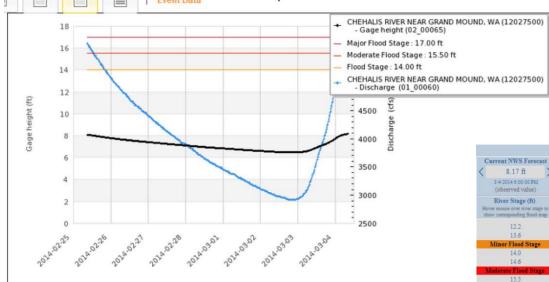






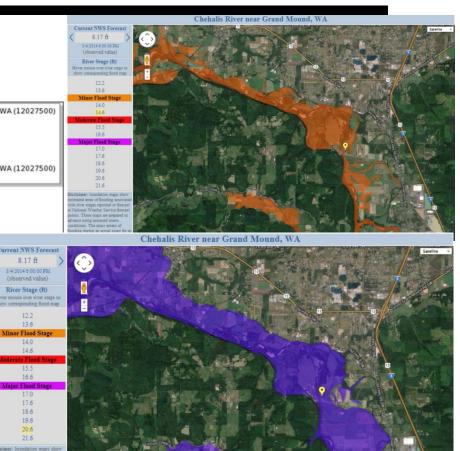
## 8. Early Flood Warning

#### Localized tracking, forecasting ... **Event Data**



Daily discharge, cubic feet per second -- statistics for Mar 4 based on 84 years of record more

Min (2005)	25th percen- tile			Most Recent Instantaneous Value Mar 4		Max (1987)
903	2340	3260	4670	5830	6340	22700

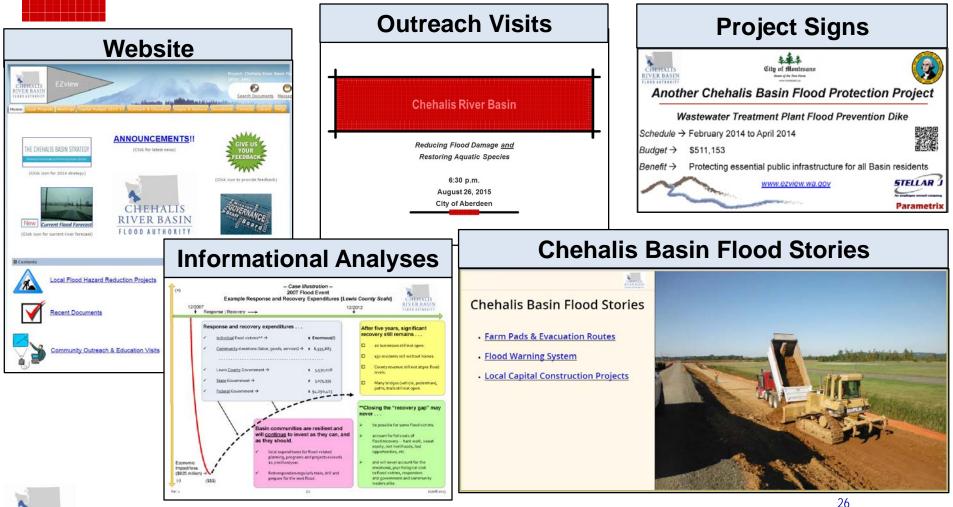


RIVER BASIN FLOOD AUTHORITY 16.6

17.6

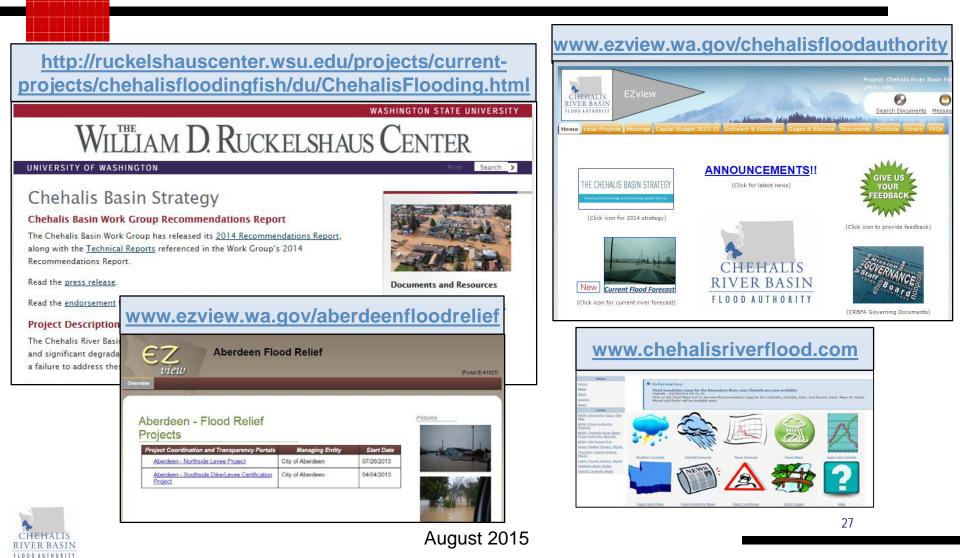
nated areas of flooding associ iver stages reported or for-Vational Weather Service preca ta. These maps are prepared in ng during an actual event for due to specific local storm

### 9. Outreach, Education and Communication



RIVER BASIN FLOOD AUTHORITY

## 9. Outreach, Education and Communication





Chehalis River near Doty USGS





Clearing Mud in Curtis, WA STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES





Curtis, WA, Aftermath of 7 Feet of Water STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES





Chandler Road Bridge near Doty, WA STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES













I-5 Under Water BRUCE ELY / OREGONIAN





**Chehalis, WA** STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES









Jackson Street, Centralia, WA STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES





I-5 Under Water BRUCE ELY / OREGONIAN





Photos Source: WSDOT





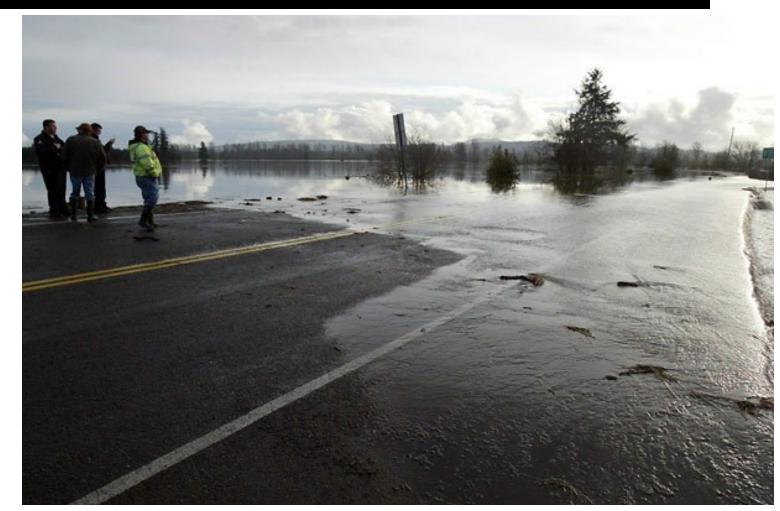












Wakefield Road, Elma, WA GREG GILBERT / SEATTLE TIMES



## For Further Information . . .

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Thank You . . .

## **Thank You!**

Note:

This Presentation is Available at

"Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority" Website

at www.ezview.wa.gov/chehalisfloodauthority.

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