Chehalis River Basin

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

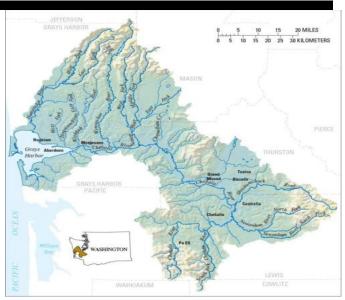
1:00 p.m.

October 12, 2016

Aaron Kunkler (Reporter, The Chronicle)

Today's Presentation . . .

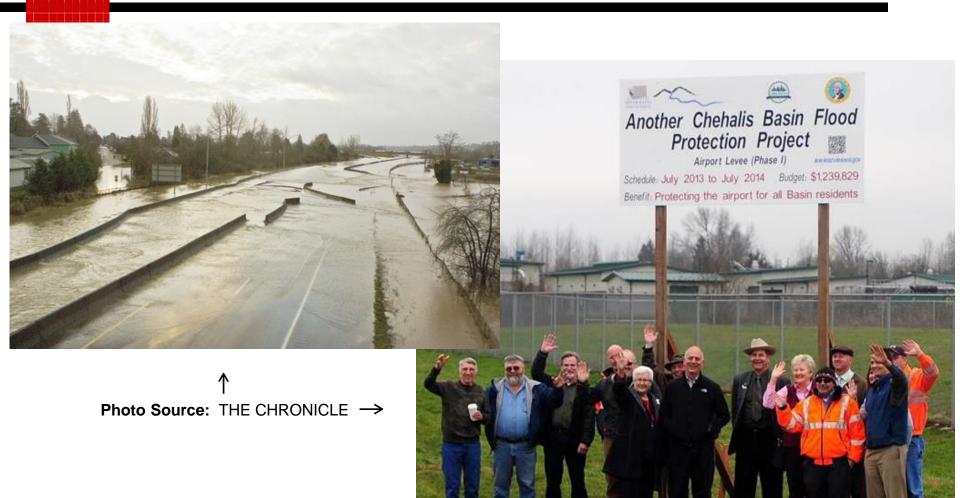
- Provide update, encourage discussion.
- Key messages . . .
 - 1. Broad agreement -- For first time in a century there is progress across the Basin on next steps to reduce flood damage and enhance salmon, aquatic species.



- **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 = Action!
- 4. Fundamental principle -- Solving one's problems doesn't increase another's.



Action . . .





"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

Oct. 2016

- Thurston County
 - 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 (2017-19).
 - □ Flood Retention Dam in paired with <u>Airport Levee Improvements</u>.
 - Basin-wide <u>Aquatic Species Restoration</u>.
 - High-priority, small-scale <u>Local Flood Damage Reduction Projects</u>.
 - 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).



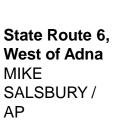
2007 Storm -- \$938M Basin-wide damage, \$300M lost economic activity (WA).



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



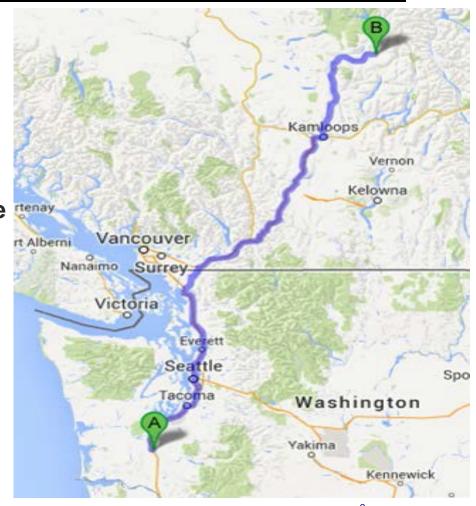
■ 2007 Flood -- I-5 and Hwy 507 Interchange looking South.





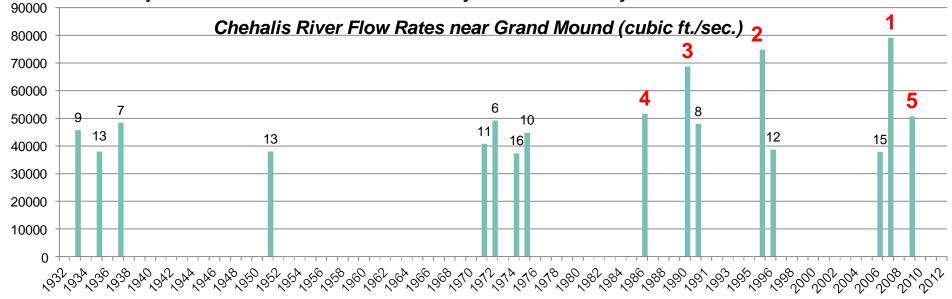


- 289,983 acre feet of measured water (12/03-08/2007).
- Equivalent to covering roadway between Chehalis and North of Kamloops with 1 foot of water 1-mile wide or covering . . .
 - 80% of Kitsap County.
 - 69% of Clark County.
 - 59% of Thurston County.





- 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.*





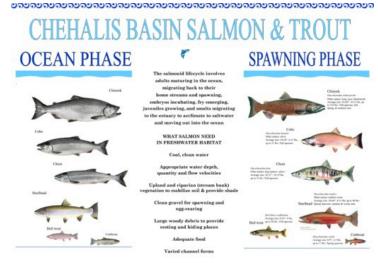
- Chehalis is the second largest river basin in the state, rich in natural resources . . .
- Salmon populations are 15-25% of historic levels.
- TMDL for the basin (http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wq/tmdl/ChehalisRvrTMDLSummary.html).



Upper Chehalis (5/31/2010)

JAMES E. WILCOX / WILD GAME FISH

CONSERVATION INTERNATIONAL





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

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.



Decline. The natural resources of the Chenells Basin have supported Native enonicons for contunes and condition to provide value to both the tribs and contribe, people of the Bosin. The Chons is Basin supports live seeds a efsels. It is seen possible that the current trajectory coupled with the potential

lood /4 thority has facilitated a number of construction projects to reduce flood demage and more are on the way.

Implementing a Comprehensive, integrated Approach for Fish and Floods, Mar "see also existed or of the patients' medic, securital feath "is, and one of name on Condening relative in the limit is even as 20 for Commands when the Wish General of the support of Commands is that approxime with Devins limit being into Anthron-count about of a condition of reconnected one for integrated package of food farrage exists as in Support process contracts. These name another is in the process of the participation of the process of the participation of the process of the participation of the participation of the process of the participation of the participation

- A concrete floor retention dam on the upper Chehallis River, pained with improvements to the Chema's Centralia
- National Attent Lovice.

 Restriction of ever 200 miles of Spring Chinools spaceming and rearing habitat, reviews of priority fair passage trainers, recorded to all officerums free last fire equalitizations, and a committee make attempt to address services investment in high-priority, conditionable fluent along recording projects, with a complete size in projects with multipaction fluent and the services.

economic reparts assessated with the recommended package of flood damage reduction and accustic species restoration actions as well as a "no action" alternative for the Secin.

There will be several apportunities for public organizant on the programmatic DS:





1. Basin-Wide Relationships







TOWN of BUCODA

































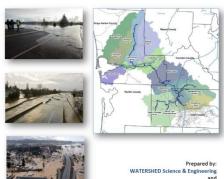


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2. Hydraulic Understanding

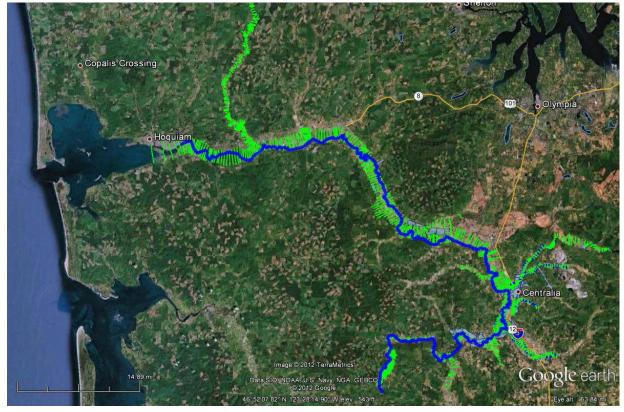
- Science-based model -- To inform decision-makers on hydraulic effects of potential flood relief options (at basin-wide and localized scales).
- 108 miles -- Mouth of Chehalis River upstream to Pe Ell (108 miles).

Draft Report - Chehalis River Hydraulic Model Development Project



Prepared for:

July 23, 2012





2. Hydraulic Understanding

 Example: Basinwide effects analysis
 (Governor's Chebalis

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

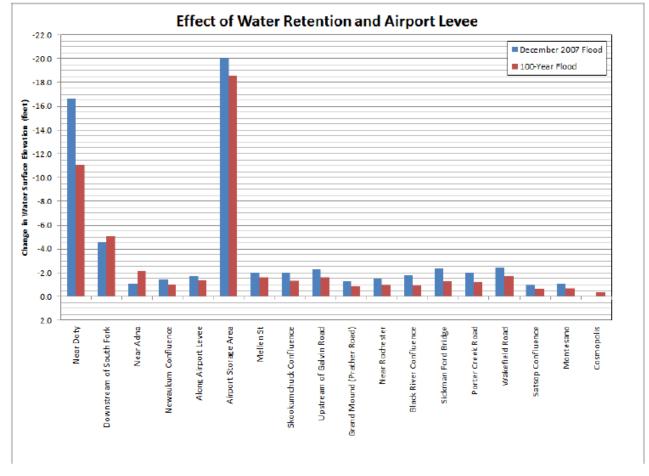


Figure 2: Predicted Changes in Water Surface Elevations from Water Retention and Airport Levee



3. Master Strategy (Game Plan)

THE CHEHALIS BASIN STRATEGY

Reducing Flood Damage and Enhancing Aquatic Species

For SU years, little has come from efforts to reduce flood damage in the Chelails Bain. Now, for the first time, there is a broadly-supported, Basin-wide process that is implementing long-sought local projects and leading to a comprehensive strategy to address flooding, while at the same time enhancing aquatic species across the Chelails Basin.



The 2013 legislature funded a \$28 million program of

- 2012, 2013-15 Framework and Recommendations.
- Key elements:
 - Concrete Flood Retention Dam on upper Chehalis River.
 - Chehalis-Centralia Municipal <u>Airport Levee Improvements</u>.
 - Basin-wide <u>Aquatic Species Restoration</u> (100+ miles spawning/rearing habitat).
 - 4. Local <u>Flood-damage Reduction Projects</u>, including raising homes, floodproofing businesses and public structures.
 - 5. Local actions to <u>Protect Floodplain Functions</u>, ensure development doesn't exacerbate harm.
 - 6. Cost = \$500-600M; Benefit = \$720M (100 yrs.); No Action = \$3.5B (100 yrs.).







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



4. Large Capitol Projects

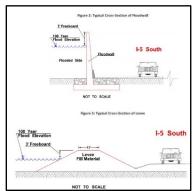
2013-15:

- □ Technical team developed baseline knowledge on safety, feasibility of Flood Retention

 Dam 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.



Approx. Dam Crest

Photo source: ANCHOR QEA



Pe Ell Wastewater Treatment Plant Flood Protection Dike

5. Small-Scale Local Projects

Aberdeen Proposed Northside Dike/Levee



2012 Supplemental Capital Budget:

■ \$5.0M -- Local projects.

2013-15 Capital Budget:

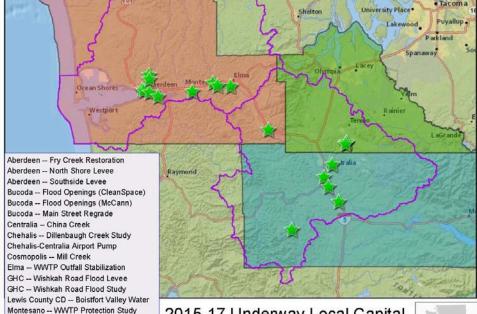
\$15.1M -- Local projects, aquatic species enhancement.

2015-17 Capital Budget:

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













Napavine -- Kirkland Road Study Oakville - Flood Relief Study

WCC -- Farm Pads & Evacuation Routes

WDFW -- Lower Satsop Relic Channel









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>.









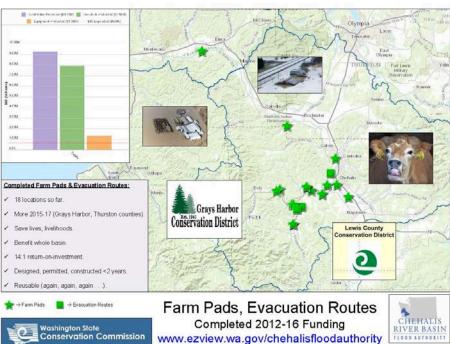


5. Small-Scale Local Projects



Projects Completed
Local Protection!

Projects Completed
14:1 Return-on-investment!







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.



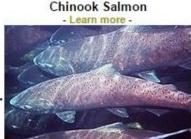
Chehalis River Basin

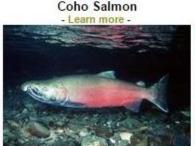


7. Restore Salmon and Aquatic Species

Salmon:

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







2013-15:

- Collected data (aquatic species, water quality, hydrologic, etc.).
- Analyzed/modelled data to understand relationships (fish, wildlife, water quality, sediment, streamflow, flooding, etc.).
- Developed "Aquatic Species Enhancement Plan" (8/29/2014).



Snorkel Surveys

2015-17:

- Convene broad group to identify, implement early actions
 - Remove barriers to fish passage.
 - Restore off-channel habitat.
 - Address bank erosion.



Seine Collections



7. Restore Salmon and Aquatic Species

Other Fish and Aquatic Species











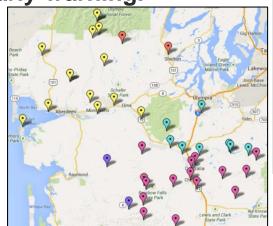






8. Early Flood Warning

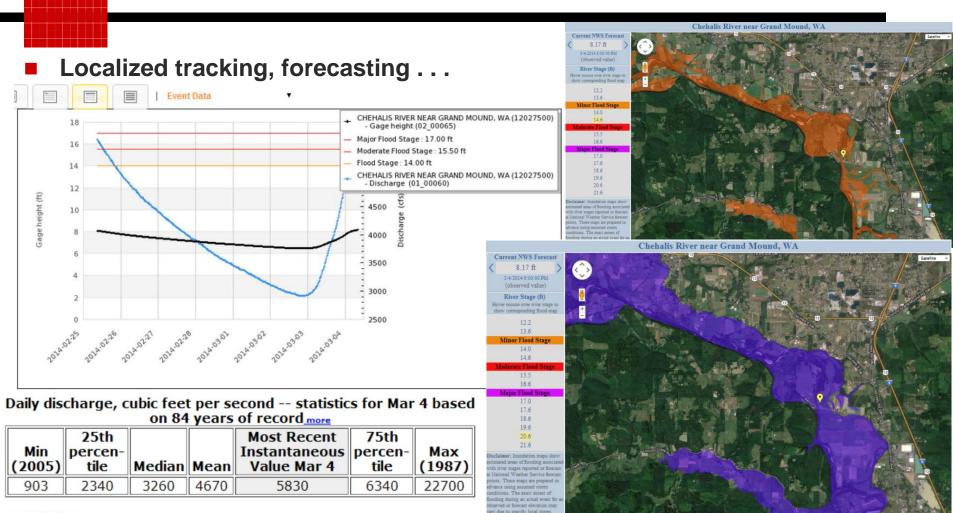
- www.chehalisriverflood.com
- Front-facing website.
- Data collection, data synchronization.
- Improved forecasting, early-warning.







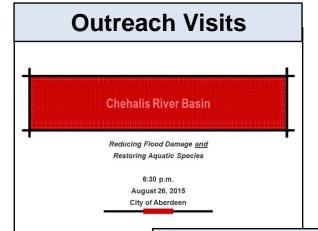
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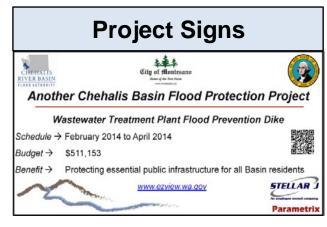


CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN

9. Outreach, Education and Communication

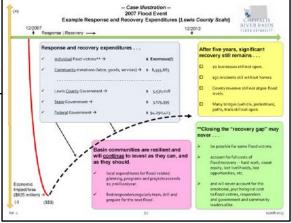












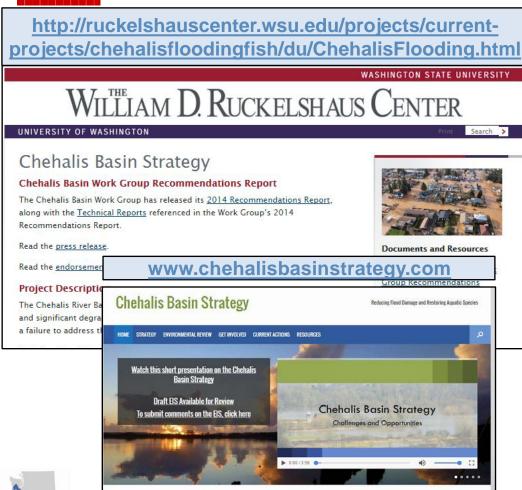
Chehalis Basin Flood Stories







9. Outreach, Education and Communication



WWW.ezview.wa.gov/chehalisfloodauthority Project: Chehalis River Basin Fourier Topic Company Research Documents Projects Projects Meetings Capital Budget 2013-15 Outreach & Education Gages & Stations Documents Contacts Library FAQs ANNOUNCEMENTS!! (Click for latest news) (Click icon for 2014 strategy) CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN FEEDBACK (Click icon for 2014 strategy) (Click icon for provide feedback) FEEDBACK (Click icon for current river forecast) FLOOD AUTHORITY





(CRBFA Governing Documents



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







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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



Oct. 2016













Wakefield Road, Elma, WA GREG GILBERT / SEATTLE TIMES



For Further Information . . .

Vickie Raines, Grays Harbor County Representative

Chair, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

Member, Governor's Chehalis Basin Work Group
360/249-3731

vraines@co.grays-harbor.wa.us

Edna Fund, Lewis County Representative

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority *Vice-Chair*, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority 360/740-1283

Edna.Fund@lewiscountywa.gov

Jim Kramer, Facilitator

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority Governor's Chehalis Basin Work Group 206/841-2145

jkramer.consulting@gmail.com

Scott Boettcher, Staff

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority 360/480-6600

scottb@sbgh-partners.com



Key Links . . .

- 1. Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority -- www.ezview.wa.gov/chehalisfloodauthority
 - Flood Warning System -- <u>www.chehalisriverflood.com</u>
 - Sign-Up for Email Gage Alerts -- https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/ 1492/images/Print50%20-- %20HANDOUT%20--%20Gage%20Alerts%20Sign-Up%2008102016.pdf
 - Local Projects -- https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias 1492/34489/local projects.aspx
- 2. Chehalis Basin Strategy -- www.chehalisbasinstrategy.com
 - Department of Ecology -- http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/sea/sepa/chehalisbasin.html
 - Ruckelshaus Center -- http://ruckelshauscenter.wsu.edu/projects/current-projects/chehalisfloodingfish/du/ChehalisFlooding.html
- **3.** Office of Chehalis Basin http://lawfilesext.leg.wa.gov/biennium/2015-16/Pdf/Bills/Session%20Laws/House/2856.SL.pdf
 - Also --

CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN

https://www.ezview.wa.gov/Portals/ 1492/images/Office%20of%20Chehalis%20summary%20for%20Flood%2

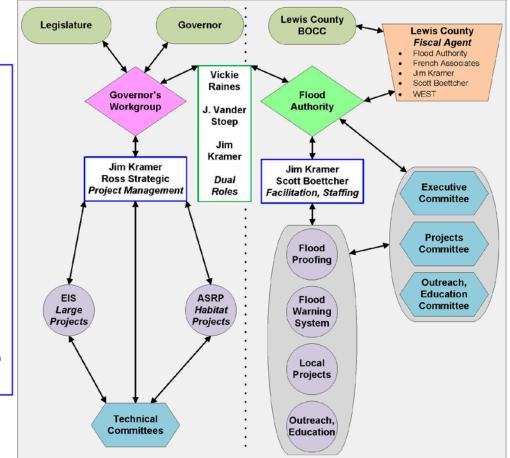
Organizational Structure . . .

RCO Contracting Agent

- 64 Contracts
- \$51.6M Total
- 29 Contract Entities

Contract Entities:

- Anchor QEA, LLC
- Capitol Land Trust
- Chehalis Basin FTF
- Chehalis Confederated Tribes
- City of Aberdeen
- City of Centralia
- City of Chehalis City of Cosmopolis
- City of Elma
- City of Montesano
- City of Napavine
- Clean Space Northwest
- Conservation Commission
- Dept of Commerce
- Dept of Ecology
- Dept of Fish & Wildlife
- Dept of Natural Resources
- Grays Harbor County
- Lewis County Community
- Lewis County Conservation
- Lewis County Public Works
- McCann Construction LLC
- Quinault Indian Nation
- Sylvan Terrace Owners Assoc
- Town of Bucoda
- Town of Oakville
- WA Coast Sustainable Salmon
- Washington State University
- Wild Fish Conservancy



DRAFT Organizational Structure (Existing)



9-15-2016

Thank You . . .

Thank You!

Note:

This Presentation is Available at "Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority" Website

at www.ezview.wa.gov/chehalisfloodauthority.

Email Distribution List

Pat Anderson

Pat.Anderson@lewiscountywa.gov

