Chehalis River Basin

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

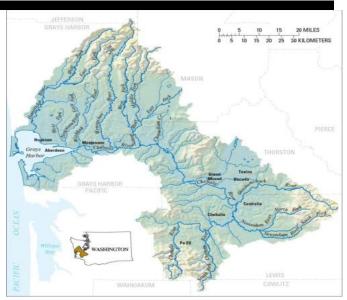
9:30 a.m.

April 4, 2017

City of Napavine

Today's Presentation . . .

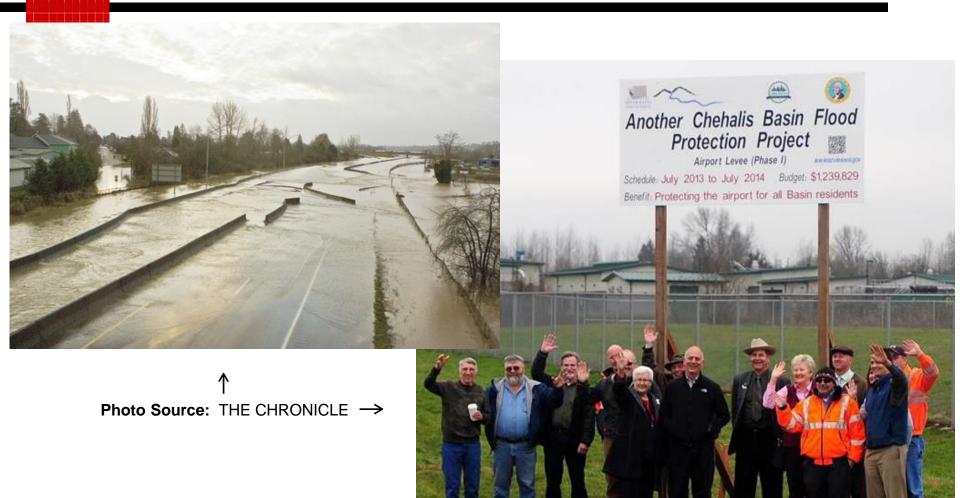
- Provide update, encourage discussion.
- Key messages . . .
 - 1. Broad agreement -- For first time in a century there is progress across the Basin on next steps to reduce flood damage and enhance salmon, aquatic species.



- **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 . . .





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"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 Hoquiam
 - City of Montesano
 - City of Oakville

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

April 2017

- 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 paired with <u>Airport Levee Improvements</u>.
 - Basin-wide Aquatic Species Restoration.
 - High-priority, small-scale <u>Local Flood Damage Reduction Projects</u>.
 - Local Land Use Management and Local Floodproofing.
- Members are:
 - □ Rob Duff (Governor's Natural Resource Advisor)
 - Jay Gordon (Washington Dairy Federation and Chehalis Farmer)
 - Steve Malloch (Western Water Futures)
 - ☐ Dr. Gary Morishima (Quinault Indian Nation)
 - Vickie Raines (Grays Harbor County Commissioner, Chair Flood Authority)
 - ☐ Don Secena, (Chairman, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation)
 - ☐ Karen Valenzuela (former Thurston County Commissioner)
 - J. Vander Stoep (Private Attorney, Pe Ell Alternate Flood Authority)



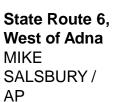
2007 Storm -- \$938M Basin-wide damage, \$300M lost economic activity (WA).

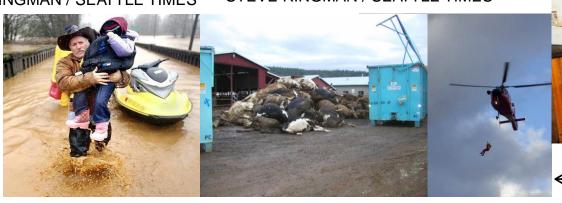


Exit 77 (I-5) in Chehalis STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES



City of Centralia
STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES





← Photos Source: LEWIS COUNTY,
DIVISION OF EMERGENCY
MANAGEMENT



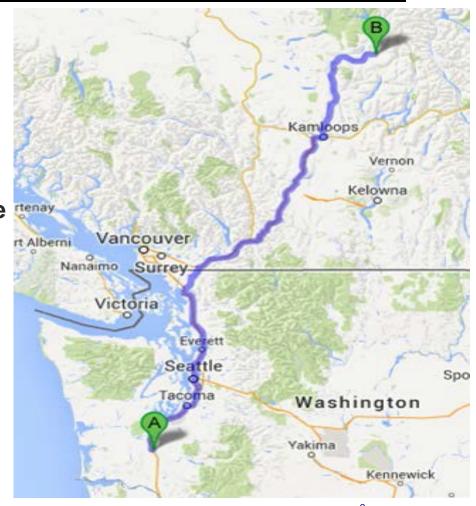
■ 2007 Flood -- I-5 and Hwy 507 Interchange looking South.



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

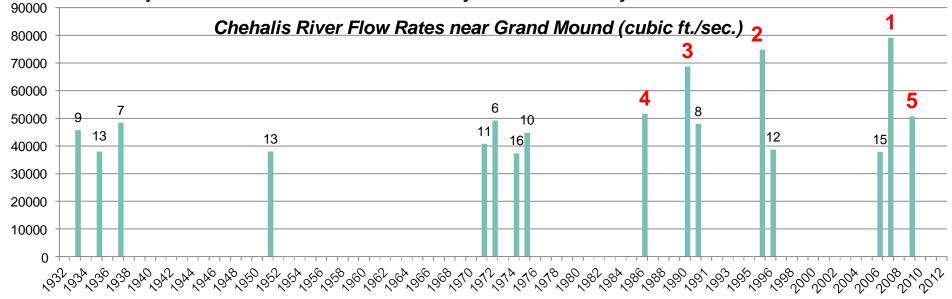


- 289,983 acre feet of measured water (12/03-08/2007).
- Equivalent to covering roadway between Chehalis and North of Kamloops with 1 foot of water 1-mile wide or covering . . .
 - 80% of Kitsap County.
 - 69% of Clark County.
 - 59% of Thurston County.





- 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 (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 part of the package of food farrage exists as a support process contracts. These name another is in the part of the package of the package

- 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 testines, reasonal or of office areast less fill or equal-capacity, and a committee training to add the stank on Insection of in Epiperiority, conflict catals flued along a relation project, with a complete shall be united to broadly.

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







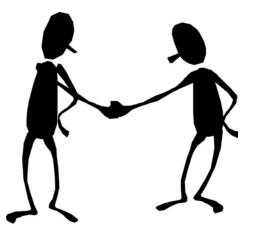






















City of Montesano Home of the Tree Farm www.montesano.us















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2. Hydraulic Understanding

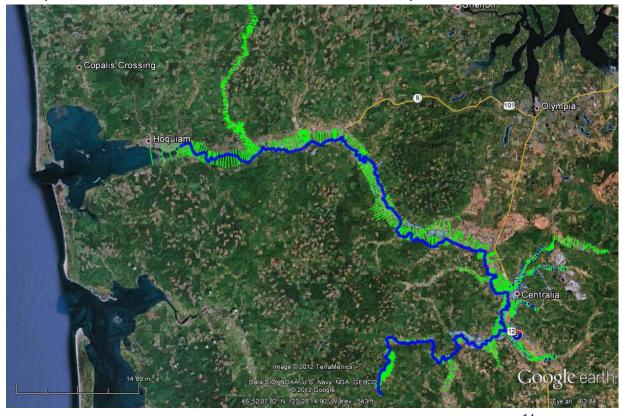
- Science-based model -- To inform decision-makers on hydraulic effects of potential flood relief options (at basin-wide and localized scales).
- 108 miles -- Mouth of Chehalis River upstream to Pe Ell (108 miles).

Draft Report - Chehalis River Hydraulic Model Development Project



Prepared for:

July 23, 2012



2. Hydraulic Understanding

 Example: Basinwide effects
 analysis
 (Governor's Chehalis

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

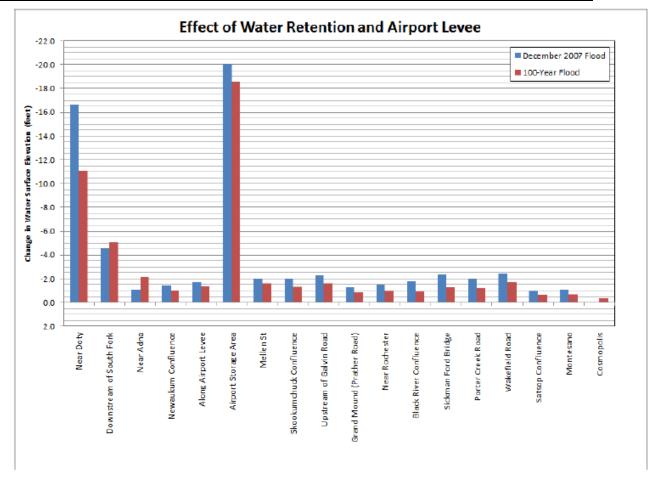


Figure 2: Predicted Changes in Water Surface Elevations from Water Retention and Airport Levee



3. Master Strategy (Game Plan)

THE CHEHALIS BASIN STRATEGY

Reducing Flood Damage and Enhancing Aquatic Species

ror su years, inte has come from errors to reduce flood damage in the Chehalis Basin. 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 equatic species across the Chehalis Basin.



The 2013 legislature funded a \$28 million program (

- 2012, 2013-15 Framework and Recommendations.
- Key elements:
 - 1. 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



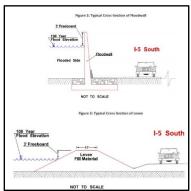
4. Large Capitol Projects

2013-15:

- Technical team developed baseline knowledge on safety, feasibility of <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) was 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:

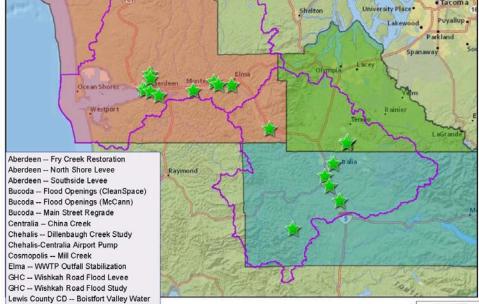
\$15.1M -- Local projects, aquatic species enhancement.

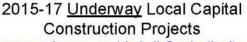
2015-17 Capital Budget:

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









www.ezview.wa.gov/chehalisfloodauthority









Montesano -- WWTP Protection Study

WCC -- Farm Pads & Evacuation Routes

WDFW -- Lower Satsop Relic Channel

Napavine -- Kirkland Road Study Oakville - Flood Relief Study





5. Small-Scale Local Projects



Local Projects

- 27 local projects actively underway
- 19 local projects completed
- Funding since 2012 -- \$6.3M/yr (state), \$4M/yr (local)

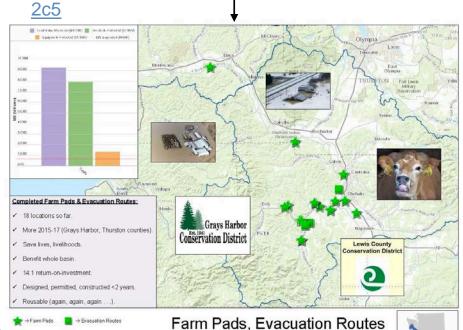
Farm Pads/Evacuation Routes

- 26 completed, underway
- 14:1 return-on-investment

Conservation Commission

Web-story --

http://lewiswa.maps.arcgis.com/apps/MapSeries/index.html?appid=884ac0632897430298bdb82f559b5



Completed 2012-16 Funding

www.ezview.wa.gov/chehalisfloodauthority

CHEHALIS





6. Land Use, Floodplain Management



- 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.





7. Restore Salmon and Aquatic Species

Chinook Salmon

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).

2015-17:

- Convened broad group to identify early actions (barriers to fish passage, off-channel habitat restoration, bank erosion, etc.)
- Results so far . . .
 - 27 fish passage barriers corrected or removed
 - 135 miles of stream habitat opened
 - 33 acres of wetlands restored
 - 50 local construction jobs April 2017





Steelhead - Learn more -





Snorkel Surveys



Seine Collections



7. Restore Salmon and Aquatic Species

Other Fish and Aquatic Species















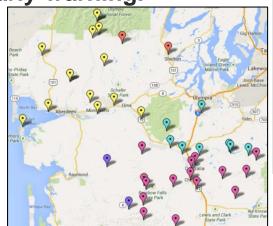




April 2017

8. Early Flood Warning

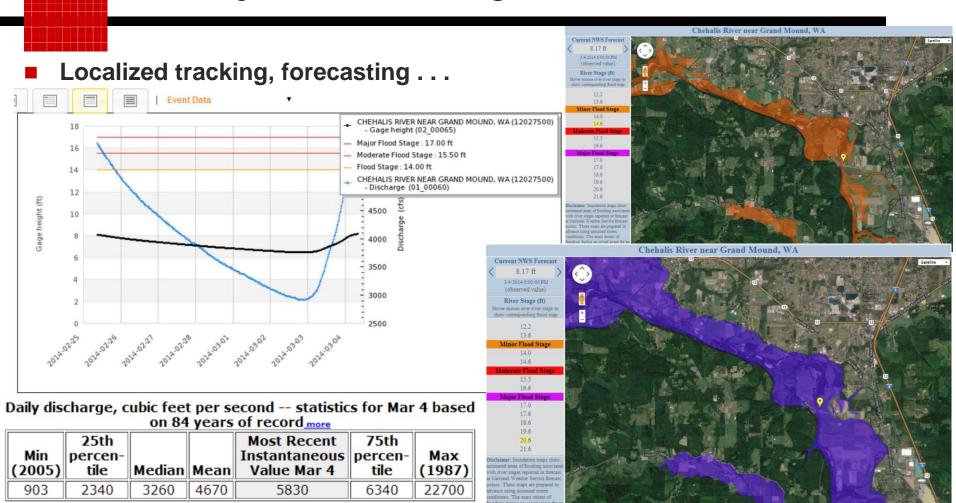
- www.chehalisriverflood.com
- Front-facing website.
- Data collection, data synchronization.
- Improved forecasting, early-warning.





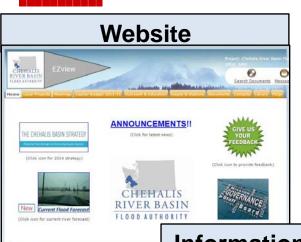


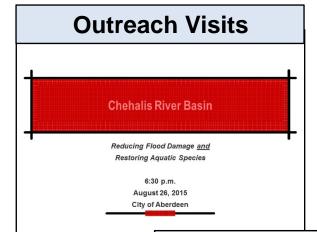
8. Early Flood Warning

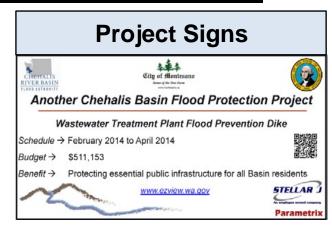




9. Outreach, Education and Communication

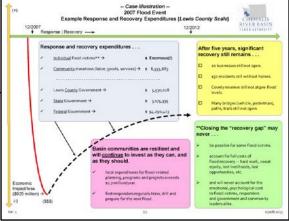












Chehalis Basin Flood Stories

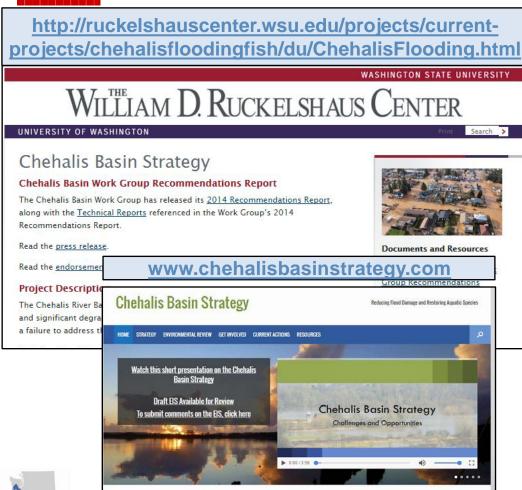


- Farm Pads & Evacuation Routes
- · Flood Warning System
- · Local Capital Construction Projects





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





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(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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April 2017

I-5 Under Water BRUCE ELY / **OREGONIAN**





Chehalis, WA STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES







April 2017

Jackson Street, Centralia, WA STEVE RINGMAN / SEATTLE TIMES





BRUCE ELY / OREGONIAN

I-5 Under Water





Photos Source: WSDOT



April 2017





April 2017

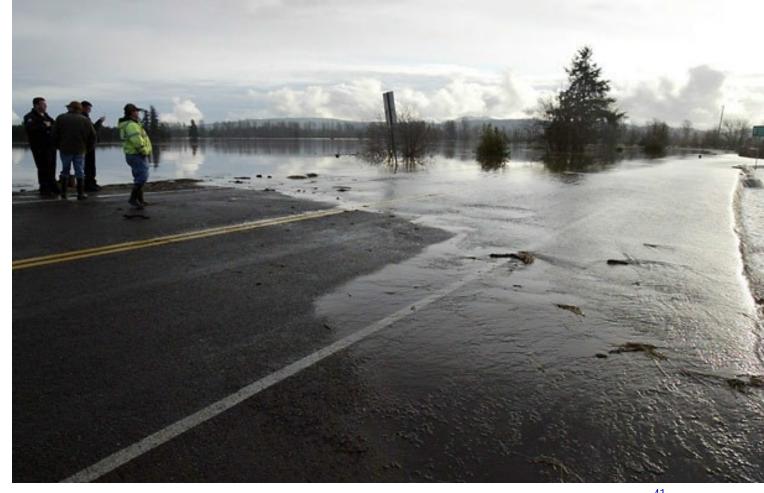








Wakefield Road, Elma, WA GREG GILBERT / SEATTLE TIMES





What's Next - 2017-19 . . .

Office of Chehalis Basin

- Created by 2016 Legislature
- Will be initiated with 2017-19 funding
- Charge = "aggressively pursue ... longterm flood damage reduction and aquatic species restoration..."
- Establishes a Board to provide oversight for implementation of Chehalis Basin Strategy
- Goal = "...provide a more unified, efficient, and consistent structure for policies and projects, especially for larger projects as they advance"

2017-19 Budget

Governor's budget = \$60M

- \$30.4M to advance long-term strategy and determine preferred option for flood projects and habitat restoration
- \$20M for construction of habitat restoration projects (\$10M State, \$10M federal)
- \$9.6M for construction of local flood damage reduction projects

REMEMBER: No Action (Consequences)

- \$3.5 Billion damage over 100 years under current conditions; potentially more with climate change
- Extreme floods more frequent and larger causing greater damage
- Loss of aquatic species
- Potential listing under Endangered Species Act



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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 https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1492/37030/Default.aspx



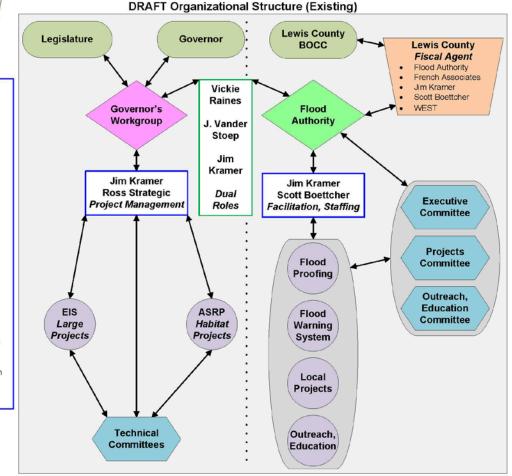
Organizational Structure . . .

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
- Development
 Lewis County Conservation
- District
- Lewis County Public Works
- McCann Construction LLC
- Quinault Indian Nation
- Sylvan Terrace Owners Assoc
- Town of Bucoda
- Town of Oakville
- WA Coast Sustainable Salmon Coalition
- Washington State University
- Wild Fish Conservancy





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

