

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

*Reducing Flood Damage and
Restoring Aquatic Species*

Town of Bucoda

June 14, 2022

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Today's Presentation

- Describe the “Flood Authority.”
 - #1 -- Local Projects
 - #2 -- Flood Warning System
 - #3 -- Role
- Touch on “Chehalis Basin Strategy.”
- Allow time for discussion.



Office of Chehalis
Basin

Chehalis Basin
Board

<https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/>

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

- **Formed** in 2008
- **Focused on** flood hazard mitigation
- **Decision-making**
 - informed by science
 - protective of Basin residents/communities
 - environmentally appropriate
- **Jurisdictions** represented (see [inter-local agreement](#))
 - Grays Harbor County (2008)
 - City of Aberdeen (2008)
 - City of Cosmopolis (2011)
 - City of Hoquiam (2017)
 - City of Montesano (2008)
 - City of Oakville (2008)
 - Lewis County (2008)
 - City of Centralia (2008)
 - City of Chehalis (2008)
 - City of Napavine (2011)
 - Town of Pe Ell (2008)
 - Thurston County (2008)
 - Town of Bucoda (2008)



Local Projects (#1)

1. Reduce flood damage.
2. Protect people, property, infrastructure.
3. Improve readiness, response, resiliency.
 - *Drinking Water* (Boistfort, Bucoda).
 - *Wastewater* (Montesano, Pe Ell).
 - *Emergency Response* (Grays Harbor County, Chehalis-Centralia Airport).
 - *Regional Economic Infrastructure* (Montesano, Port of Chehalis, Port of Grays Harbor).
 - *Community Protection* (Aberdeen, Adna, Bucoda, Centralia, Chehalis, Chehalis Tribe, Hoquiam, Oakville).
 - *Flood Warning* (Basin-wide).

State Capital Budget:
2012-13 -- \$ 5.0M
2013-15 -- \$10.7M
2015-17 -- \$15.7M
2017-19 -- \$ 9.6M
2019-21 -- \$ 6.3M
2021-23 -- \$ 4.1M
\$51.4M

Flood Warning System (#2)

CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN FLOOD AUTHORITY

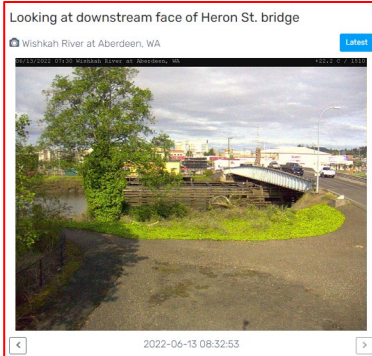
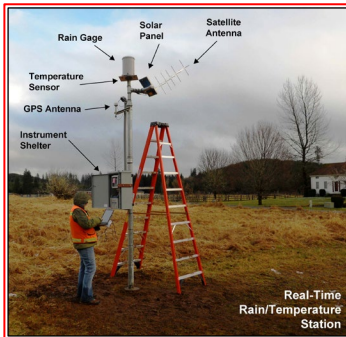
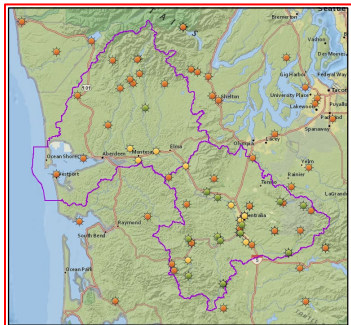
www.chehalisriverflood.com

Home Map Sites News Dashboards

Rainfall Summary River Summary Additional Resources

- Weather Forecast
- Rainfall Forecast
- River Forecast
- Flood Maps
- Plot Gage Data
- Gage Data Maps
- Landslide
- Radar Rainfall
- Road Conditions
- USGS Gages
- Atmospheric Rivers
- Chehalis Basin Gage Height Conversion Project

Photo Credit: www.chehalisbasinstrategy.com



- ✓ Developed with State Capital Budget \$.
- ✓ Maintained with local \$.

Flood Warning System (2022 Flood Event)

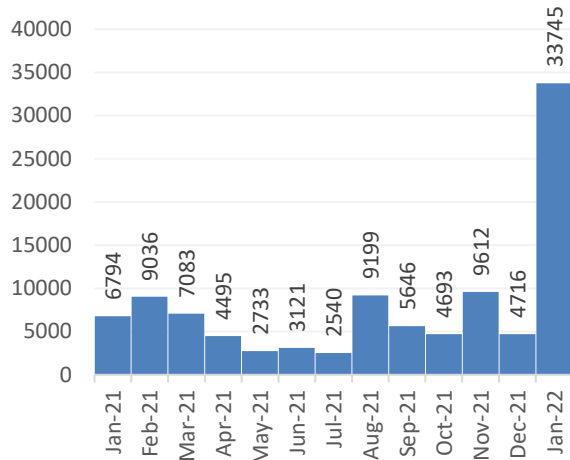
Flood Warning System Works!

The Flood Authority's flood warning system website was incredibly active during the January flood. Nearly 25,000 individual user logins were recorded and the flood inundation maps received almost 75,000 hits, providing vital information to the community during the flood emergency. *Dave Curtis, West Consultants, 2/01/2022*

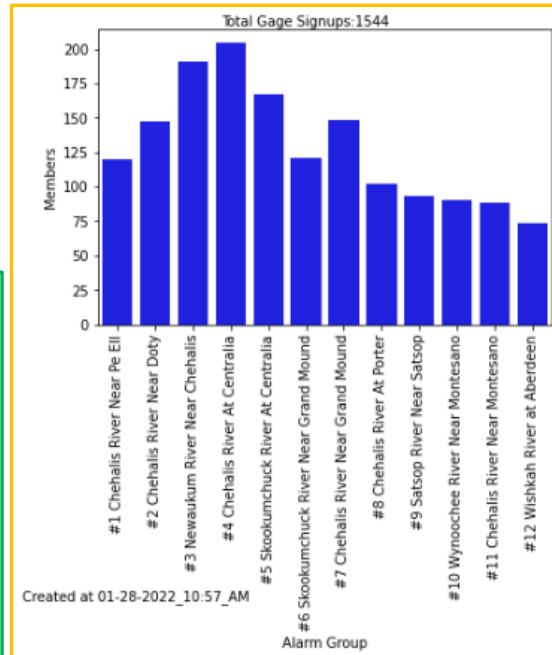
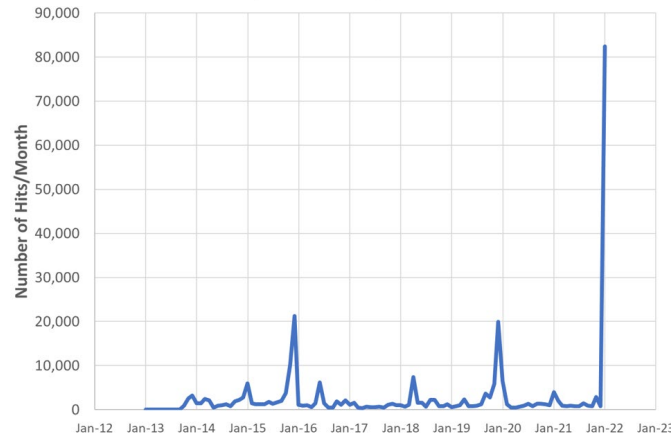
Unknown contact said:

"Our house flooded in '96 and '07--we like to be prepared The gauges and alerts give us more peace of mind. Info=peace of mind" *Survey Respondent, 2/01/2022*

Chehalis FA Website Visits



Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority Flood Warning System Monthly Inundation Map Website Hits



Flood Authority Role (#3)

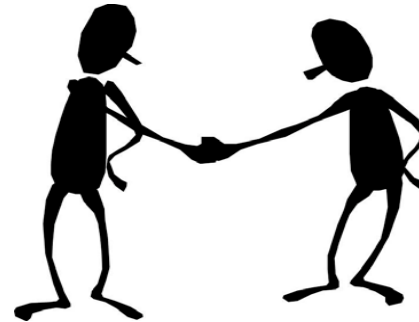
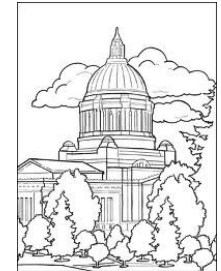
Role of the Flood Authority is to:

- ✓ **Help** local communities identify, develop, and implement local flood hazard solutions.
- ✓ **Appoint** three of seven members to Chehalis Basin Board (current appointees to this policy, funding body are Vickie Raines, Edna Fund, Jay Gordon).
- ✓ **Provide** local perspective to Basin-Wide solution discussions.
- ✓ **Advocate** for balanced basin-wide solutions for flood and fish (see local resolutions library [here](#)).

Local Resolutions Favoring Basin-Wide Solution

File Name	File Size	Category	Date Added
Aberdeen -- 2020-07-29 -- 2020-14.pdf	84 KB	2020	08/05/20 01:25 PM
Aberdeen -- 2021-01-27 -- 2021-05.pdf	1.3 MB	2021	03/18/21 05:27 AM
Bucoda -- 2020-06-09 -- 2020-04.pdf	610 KB	2020	07/15/20 10:38 AM
Bucoda -- 2021-02-08 -- 2021-01.pdf	862.3 KB	2021	03/18/21 05:11 AM
Centralia -- 2016-11-08 -- 2652.pdf	76 KB	2016	07/15/20 10:38 AM
Centralia -- 2020-05-26 -- 2718.pdf	809.8 KB	2020	07/15/20 10:39 AM
Centralia -- 2021-02-09 -- 2733.pdf	1 MB	2021	03/18/21 09:11 AM
Chehalis -- 2010-02-22 -- 5-2010.pdf	40.8 KB	2010	07/15/20 10:39 AM
Chehalis -- 2016-10-24 -- 19-2016.pdf	40.2 KB	2016	07/15/20 10:39 AM
Chehalis -- 2020-04-27 -- 6-2020.pdf	239 KB	2020	07/15/20 10:39 AM
Chehalis -- 2021-02-08 -- 2-2021.pdf	553.8 KB	2021	03/18/21 05:10 AM
Cosmopolis -- 2020-05-20 -- 2020-01.pdf	122 KB	2020	07/15/20 10:40 AM
CRBFA -- 2021-01-21 -- Resolution.pdf	130.3 KB	2021	03/18/21 05:09 AM
CRBFA Letter Re NEPA DEIS 11-13-2020 (additional 11-19-2020).pdf	252.7 KB	2020	02/01/21 09:12 AM
CRBFA Letter Re NEPA DEIS 11-13-2020.pdf	3.5 MB	2020	02/01/21 09:12 AM
Final CRBFA Letter Re DEIS 4-21-2020.pdf	293 KB	2020	02/01/21 09:11 AM
Grays Harbor County -- 2016-11-14 -- 2016-129.pdf	98.6 KB	2016	07/15/20 10:40 AM
Grays Harbor County -- 2020-05-19 -- 2020-054.pdf	92.8 KB	2020	07/15/20 10:40 AM
Grays Harbor County -- 2021-04-06 -- 2021-031.pdf	126.2 KB	2021	04/07/21 10:19 AM
Hoquiam -- 2021-04-12-- 2021-12.pdf	110.1 KB	2021	04/16/21 10:14 AM
Hoquiam -- 2020-08-10 -- 2020-12.pdf	88.8 KB	2020	08/14/20 03:52 PM
Lewis County -- 2016-10-24 -- 16-287.pdf	71.7 KB	2016	07/15/20 10:40 AM
Lewis County -- 2020-05-11 -- 20-154.pdf	651 KB	2020	07/15/20 10:40 AM
Lewis County -- 2021-02-01 -- 21-046.pdf	1.2 MB	2021	03/18/21 05:10 AM
Montesano -- 2020-06-10 -- 959.pdf	503.2 KB	2020	07/15/20 10:41 AM
Napavine -- 2020-07-28 -- 20-07-110.pdf.pdf	463.1 KB	2020	07/29/20 11:25 AM
Oakville -- 2020-07-20 -- 424.pdf.pdf	288.5 KB	2020	07/21/20 12:06 PM
Pe Ell -- 2010-04-06 -- 184.pdf	56.9 KB	2010	07/15/20 10:41 AM
Pe Ell -- 2010-12-28 -- 192.pdf	56.4 KB	2010	07/15/20 10:41 AM
Pe Ell -- 2012-09-18 -- 201.pdf	55.4 KB	2012	07/15/20 10:41 AM
Pe Ell -- 2016-11-15 -- 232.pdf	76.7 KB	2016	07/15/20 10:42 AM
Pe Ell -- 2020-06-01 -- 251.pdf	126 KB	2020	07/15/20 10:42 AM
Pe Ell -- 2021-03-02 -- 260.pdf	134 KB	2021	03/18/21 05:11 AM

Chehalis Basin Strategy



WASHINGTON STATE
CONSERVATION
COMMISSION



**CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN
FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT**

Chehalis Lead Entity



Washington
Department of
**FISH and
WILDLIFE**



Washington State
Department of Transportation



WASHINGTON STATE DEPARTMENT OF
Natural Resources

TOWN of BUCODA



Office of Financial Management

Better information. Better decisions. Better government.

Today vs 2007

Today, we are substantially more aware, better prepared for catastrophic flooding than ever before.

- ✓ We have a state-of-the art flood warning system.
- ✓ We've completed many cost-efficient local projects and habitat projects.
- ✓ We're serving people, local governments, emergency responders, agriculture, fish and habitat.
- ✓ We have a governance, administrative, and funding structure that's delivering results.



<https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/office-of-chehalis-basin/>



Looking Ahead

- ✓ **Proposed Flood Retention Facility** – DRAFT EISs were issued February 2020 (SEPA) and September 2020 (NEPA). Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District (project proponent) working diligently to provide refinements and clarifications for FINAL EIS. Final EISs are currently scheduled for release in late 2022/early 2023.
- ✓ **Local Projects** -- 2023-25 call for local projects will follow July 7, 2022 Chehalis Basin Board meeting.
- ✓ **Flood Authority Meetings** – Third Thursday of January, February, March, May, July, September, and November from 10 AM to 11:15 AM (11:30 AM).
- ✓ **Chehalis Basin Board Meetings** – First Thursday of every month from 9 AM to 2 PM.

Key Contacts

Vickie Raines, Grays Harbor County Representative

Chair, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

Chair, Chehalis Basin Board

360/249-3731

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Edna Fund, Lewis County Representative

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Member, Chehalis Basin Board

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Thank You!

This Presentation:

Available at “Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority” Website at
https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias__1492/34490/outreach_education.aspx

Email Distribution Lists:

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Cindy Bradley (Office of Chehalis Basin)
Cindy.Bradley@ecy.wa.gov

Also -- Key Links

Key Organizations:

1. Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority -- www.ezview.wa.gov/chehalisfloodauthority
2. Office of Chehalis Basin -- <https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/Our-Programs/Office-of-Chehalis-Basin>
3. Chehalis Basin Board -- https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1962/37068/chehalis_basin_board.aspx

Key Activity Areas:

1. Local Projects -- https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias_1492/34489/local_projects.aspx
2. Flood Warning System -- www.chehalisriverflood.com
3. Chehalis Basin Strategy -- www.chehalisbasinstrategy.com
 - ASRP -- <https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/asrp/>
 - CFAR -- <https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/cfar/>
 - Proposed Retention Project -- <https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/proposed-project/>
 - Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District -- <https://www.chehalisriverbasinfczd.com/>
 - State EIS (SEPA) -- <https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/sepa-process/>
 - Federal EIS (NEPA) -- <https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/federal-envl-review/>
 - Flood Retention Facility (visualization) -- <https://www.youtube.com/watch?app=desktop&v=cKTejUE3WsU>
 - Skookumchuck Dam -- <https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/skookumchuck-dam-study/>
 - LAND -- <https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/local-actions-non-dam-alternative/>

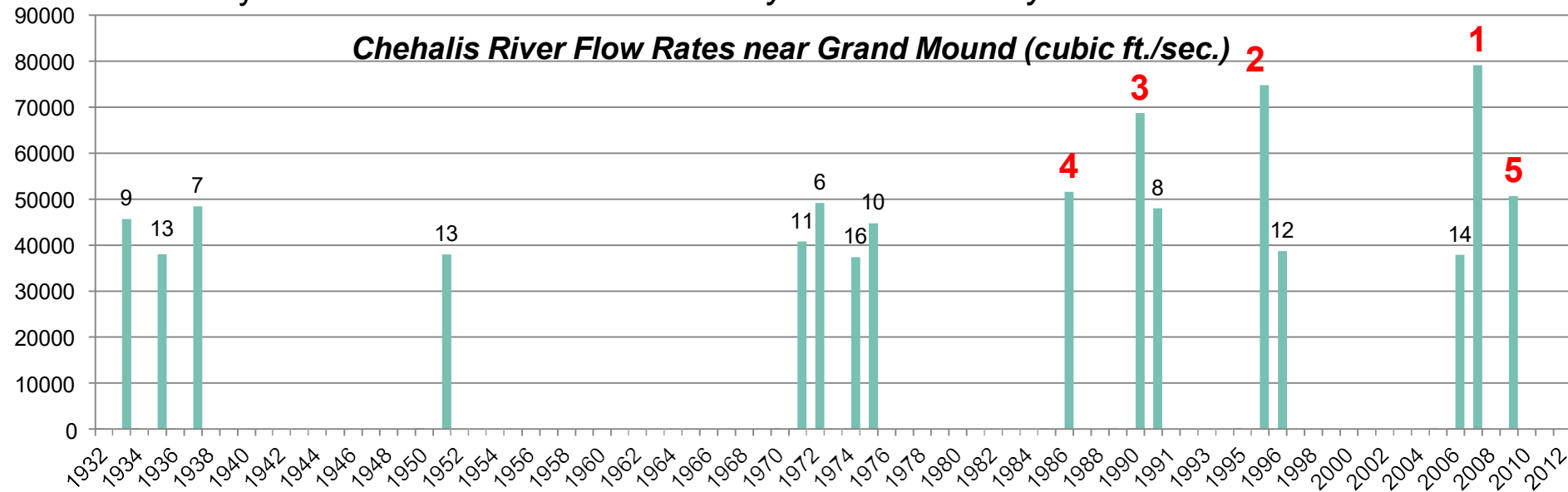
Also → Sign-Up for Email Gage Alerts – <https://chehalis.onerain.com/upload/files/6a9bf8e2-f04b-4165-8a9f-ce031d5db6b4.pdf>

Also -- Background

■ 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 River Flow Rates near Grand Mound (cubic ft./sec.)



Also -- Background

- 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



State Route 6,
West of Adna
MIKE
SALSBURY /
AP

