



DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY  
CORPS OF ENGINEERS, SEATTLE DISTRICT  
P.O. BOX 3755  
SEATTLE, WASHINGTON 98124-3755

Regulatory Branch

April 29, 2021

Mr. Erik Martin  
District Administrator  
Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District  
351 Northwest North Street  
Chehalis, Washington 98532-1900

Reference: NWS-2014-1118  
Chehalis River Basin Flood  
Damage Reduction Project  
(Lewis County)

Dear Mr. Martin:

We are continuing to evaluate your proposal to construct a flood retention expandable facility (FRE) in the Chehalis River (River Mile 108.5) near the Town of Pe Ell, in Lewis County, Washington, and raise levees at the Chehalis-Centralia Airport in the City of Chehalis, Lewis County, Washington, to reduce damage from major flood events in the Chehalis Basin.

As part of our ongoing review of your proposal under 33 CFR 320.4(r), we are evaluating feasible project modifications and mitigation measures that could avoid, minimize, or reduce project impacts, and that, if adopted, would result in a project that still meets your identified purpose and need. One such mitigation measure that would avoid impacts to traditional cultural properties would be to site the FRE at an alternative location. Our review of early geotechnical work that evaluated potential locations for a dam in the Chehalis Basin indicates that a dam located approximately 1,500 feet upriver of the current proposed location may be feasible.<sup>1</sup>

To support our continued review of your proposal, please provide information about the feasibility of siting the FRE at the location identified in the cited report, and any engineering or other rationale for siting the FRE at the current proposed location.

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<sup>1</sup> Shannon & Wilson, Inc. Reconnaissance-Level Geotechnical Report, Proposed Chehalis River and South Fork Dam Sites. October 28, 2009

Please submit all of the requested information within 30 days. If you have any questions or if you cannot meet the requested deadline, please contact me at (206) 316-3164 or at [brandon.c.clinton@usace.army.mil](mailto:brandon.c.clinton@usace.army.mil)

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Brandon Clinton". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

Brandon Clinton, Project Manager  
Regulatory Branch

Cc:  
Diane Butorac  
Washington State Department of Ecology