# **Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority**

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

City of Chehalis November 25, 2024

#### **2007 Storm**

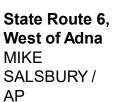
■ \$938M Basin-wide damage, \$300M lost economic activity (WA).



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
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#### **Today's Presentation**

"Flood Authority"

**#1 -- Local Projects** 

#2 -- Flood Warning System



#3 -- Proposed Flow-through Dam for Flood Control



# CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT



Office of Chehalis Basin

Chehalis Basin Board



#### **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



- ➤ Grays Harbor County (2008) ➤ Lewis County (2008)
  - City of Aberdeen (2008)
     City of Centralia (2008)
  - City of Cosmopolis(2011) O City of Chehalis (2008)

  - City of Montesano (2008)
  - City of Oakville (2008)

- City of Hoquiam (2017)City of Napavine (2011)
  - Town of Pe Ell (2008)



- > Thurston County (2008)
  - Town of Bucoda (2008)

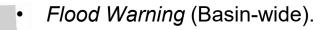


**Help** local communities identify, develop, implement local flood hazard reduction solutions.

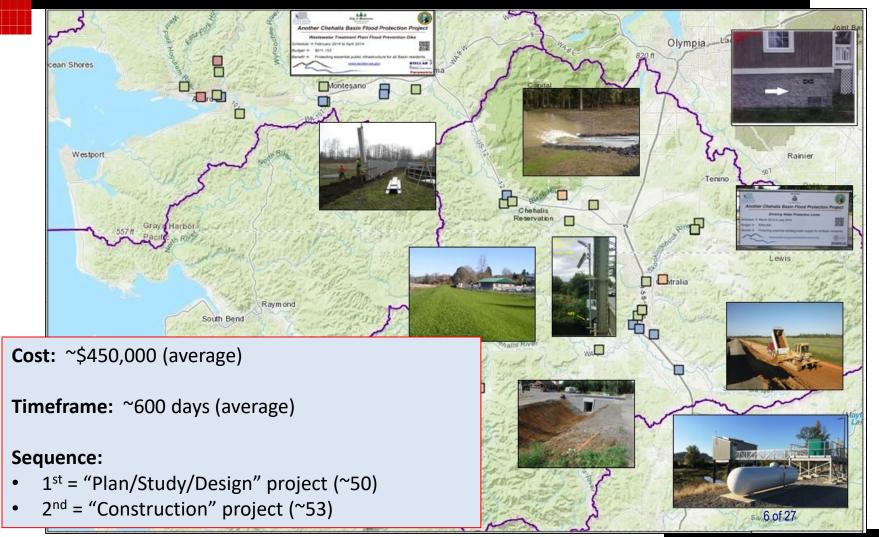
### **Local Projects (#1)**

- 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).

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 2023-25 -- \$ 3.6M \$55.0M 2025-27 -- \$ 3.0M to \$13.0M



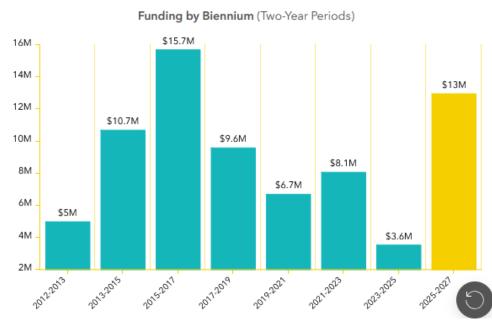
# **Local Projects (100+ Projects Completed 2012-23)**





# **Local Projects (100+ Projects Completed 2012-23)**







# Local Projects (Cosmopolis, 2015-2018)

#### Mill Creek Multi-Objective Implementation Plan:

- ✓ Part I = Reconstruct Mill Creek Dam (done).
- ✓ Phase II project = Address 4,500' of Mill Creek flow, culverts, and flood water evacuation (under development).

Read 5-24-2024 news article here





City of Cosmopolis, Sep 29, 2018



https://www.thedailyworld.com/news/new-mill-creek-dam-ribbon-cutting-saturday-in-cosmopolis/

FILE PHOTO Cosmopolis Mayor Frank Chestnut (left) will officiate a ribbon cutting ceremony for the new Mill Creek



#### **Local Projects (Pe Ell, 2014)**







- ✓ Project = Design/construct 900' dike (between Chehalis r. and WWTP).
- $\checkmark$  Cost = \$521,000.
  - Photos = <a href="https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias\_1492/35040/default.aspx#peell.">https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias\_1492/35040/default.aspx#peell.</a>
  - Website =
    https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias 1782/34858/overview.aspx

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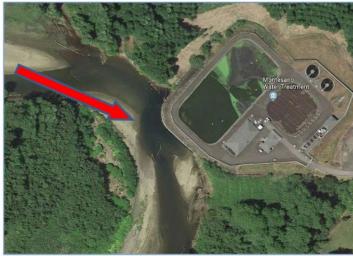
# Local Projects (Montesano, 2017-2020)

- ✓ Protect WWTP from on-coming Wynoochee river using 220+ "logjacks."
- ✓ \$2 million (for "log-jacks").
- ✓ Small cost compared to WWTP relocation and environmental cleanup (in event of WWTP breaching).



https://www.google.com/maps/@46.9678637.-123.6077821.197m/data=!3m1!1e3

July 7, 2022 →



**Project Start** 



Governor Inslee and Mayor Samuel stand overlooking the Wynoochee River.

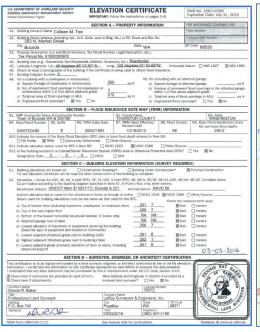
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#### **Foundation Flood Openings Pilot**

### Local Projects (Bucoda, 2016)

- √ 11 Properties
- ✓ Total -- \$ 85,465.43.
- ✓ Average -- \$8,550.
- ✓ Link here.
- ✓ Web map <u>here</u>.





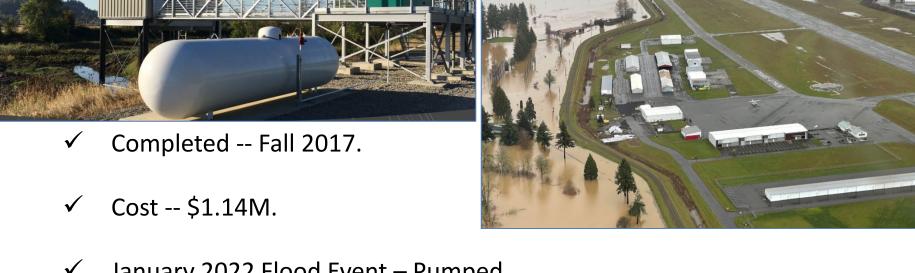




# **Local Projects (Chehalis-Centralia Airport, 2017)**



- January 2022 Flood Event Pumped 518.4M gallons over many days to keep levee dry.
- ROI (2018) -- Protects \$45M in assets, ensures \$9M in annual tax revenue.



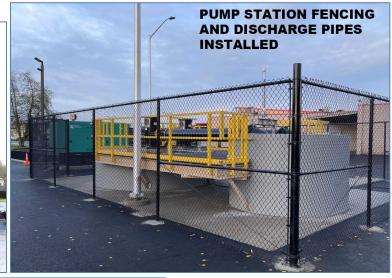


Read More -- Here.

#### **NEW! -- 10th Street Stormwater Pump Station**

### **Local Projects (Hoquiam, 2025)**





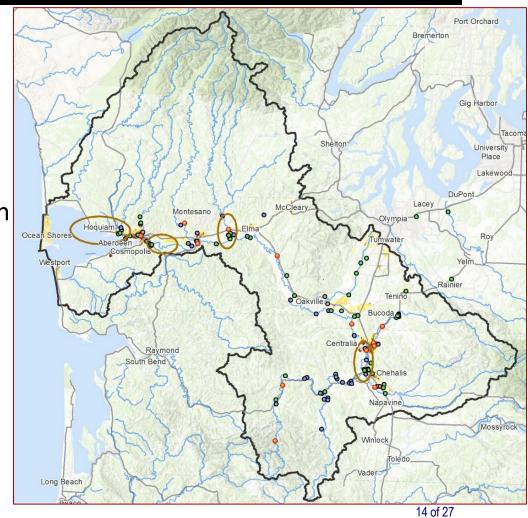






### Local Projects (Geographically-Based)

Identify future local projects through geographically-based, coordinated local investment planning.



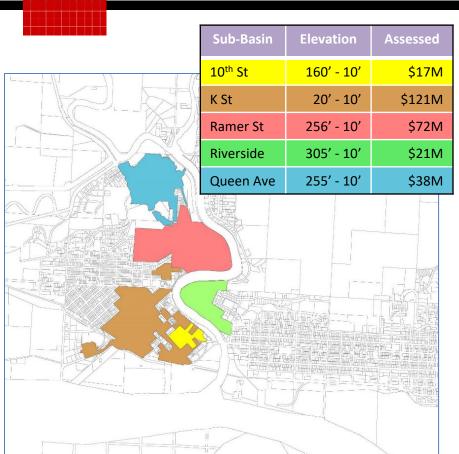


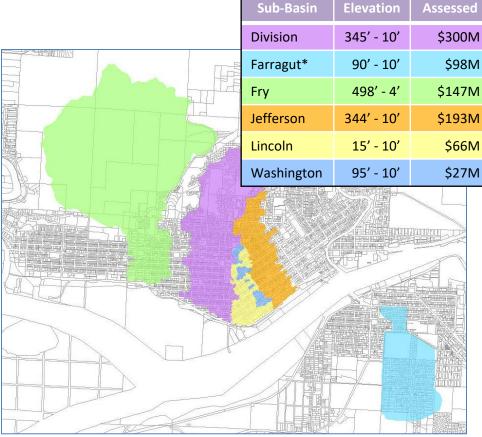
- √ \$50M need.
- ✓ \$30M to date (58%).

- o 2,735 acres
- 4,583 parcels
- 232 businesses
- \$1.1B assessed value

- Drivers and Solutions (<u>here</u>).
- ✓ Joint Resolution (here).
- ✓ Joint Plan (<u>here</u>).

### **Local Projects (Pumps -- Geographically-Based)**





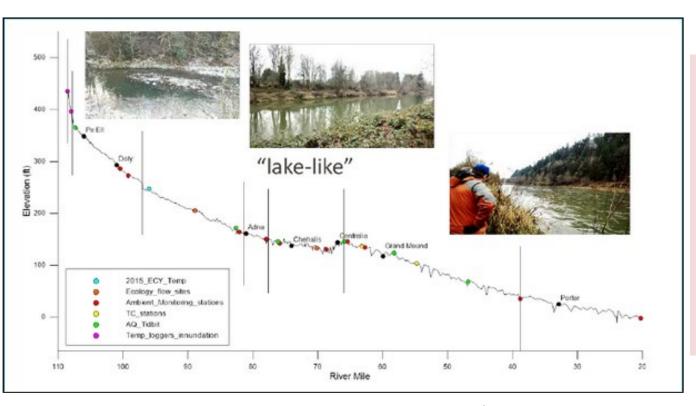
11 urbanized low elevation sub-basins

Adverse meteorologic conditions -- high tides, heavy rain, bankfull rivers, saturated soils, SW winds

Very difficult to drain! (\$1.1B assessed value at risk)



### Local Projects (Geographically-Based)



#### **Basin Geography**

- □ Upper = Steep, narrow, fast flowing.
- ✓ Middle = Flat, "lake like", slow to drain.
  - Lower = Flat, coastal, difficult to drain.

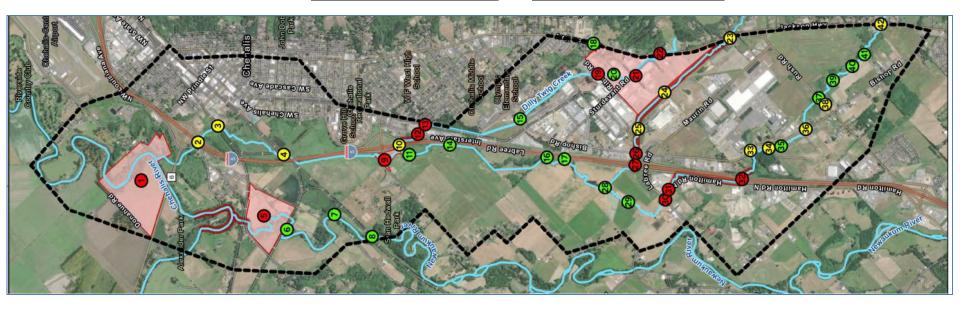
Shah, Mohammad. (2021). inland water-dynamics and ecology. 10.5772/intechopen.87463.



#### **2023-25 Funding -- Flood Storage Investment Plan**

### Local Projects (Mid-Basin -- Geographically-Based)

#### South City of Chehalis & Port of Chehalis



Comprehensive flooding strategy, sequenced investment plan:

- ✓ Increase flood storage
- ✓ Reduce flood levels

Feb 6<sup>th</sup> or Mar 6<sup>th</sup> = Community workshop (VL Community Building, 2-6 PM)



✓ Minimize damage, monetary losses

#### **2023-25 Funding – Old WWTP Demolition Project**

# Local Projects (Mid-Basin -- Geographically-Based)

2023-25 Funding = \$100,000

✓ Preliminary design, permit scoping.

2025-27 Funding = \$200,000

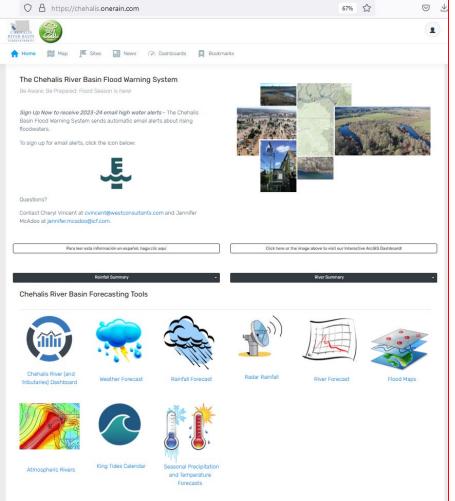
✓ Final design, permitting.





# Flood Warning System (#2)

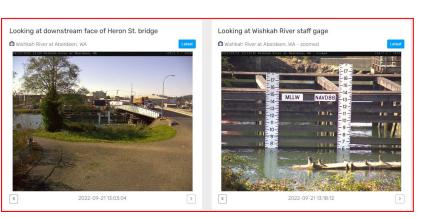
- ✓ Developed with State Capital Budget \$.
- ✓ Maintained with local \$.



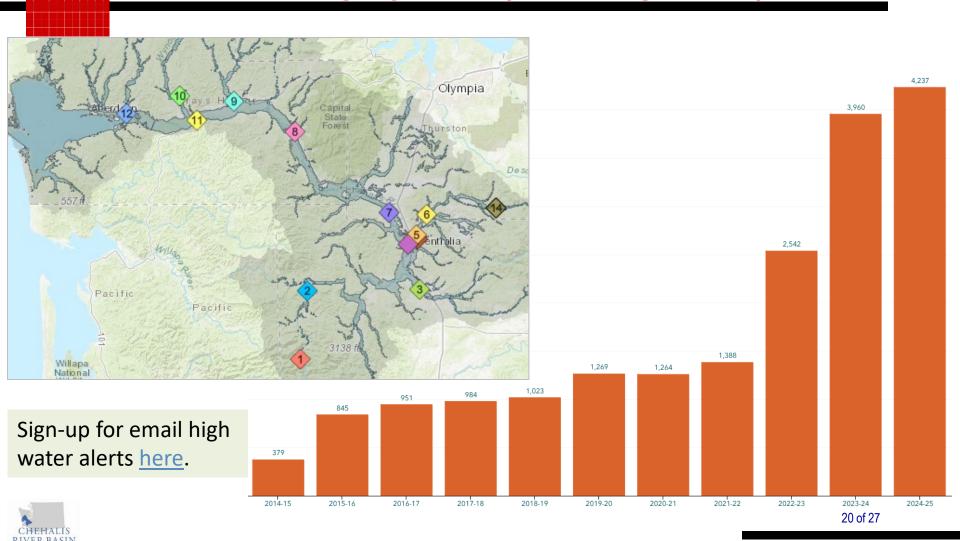
#### www.chehalisriverflood.com







### Flood Warning System (Alert Sign-Ups)



# Flood Warning System (New Tide Gage)

Chehalis Basin Board provided funding for new Tide gage.

- ✓ Working with NWS on lower Chehalis river forecast.
- ✓ Data could help Aberdeen/Hoquiam manage North Shore Levee.









# Proposed Flow-through Dam for Flood Control (#3)



#### CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN

FLOOD CONTROL ZONE DISTRICT

www.chehalisriverbasinfczd.com



### Proposed Flow-Through Dam for Flood Control (#3)



- 1. Move through unobstructed
- ✓ Water
- ✓ Fish
- ✓ Sediment
- 2. Delivers topto-bottom benefit, Pe Ell to Cosmopolis.
- 3. See recent presentation <a href="here">here</a>.



# **Chehalis Basin Strategy**

#### **State Law**

"The primary purpose of the office is to aggressively pursue implementation of an integrated strategy and administer funding for long-term flood damage reduction and aquatic species restoration in the Chehalis river basin." (RCW 43.21A.730)



Office of Chehalis
Basin

Chehalis Basin Board

https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/





#### **Chehalis Basin Board**

Community leaders, Chehalis and Quinault tribal representatives, local and state government liaisons





#### Office of Chehalis Basin

Small team within the WA Department of Ecology



#### "Network of Partners"

Organizations and local entities who turn ideas into shovel-ready reality



### **Chehalis Basin Strategy (Network of Partners)**





























































#### **Local Resolutions Library**

https://www.ezview.wa.gov/site/alias 1492/37643/local resolutions.aspx

### 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 alike
- ✓ We have a governance, administrative, and funding structure that's delivering results, and is
  committed to a balanced basin-wide flood and fish solution (see Local Resolution Library).



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



#### **Key Contacts**

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#### Edna Fund, Lewis County Representative

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dutch@localaccess.com

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#### Extra – Flood and Fish Articles





It has been more than 15 years since the devastating flooding of December 2007 in the Chehalis River Basin. In the time since, residents, businesses, tribes and government

By The Chronicle staff | 8/4/23

The Chronicle 1000



#### Chehalis Basin Strategy progress in review: Pump station investments to protect 5,100 properties in lower Chehalis River Basin



The Fry Creek Pump Station is pictured in Aberdeen.

