

Chehalis River Basin Flood Warning System

Update

September 15, 2022

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**WEST
CONSULTANTS**

WATER | ENVIRONMENTAL | SEDIMENTATION | TECHNOLOGY

An aerial photograph showing a wide, muddy river flowing through a rural landscape. The river is significantly swollen, with water reaching the banks and flooding surrounding fields and forests. In the foreground, a farm with a large red barn and several smaller buildings is visible. The background shows rolling hills and dense evergreen forests under a hazy sky.

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

Flood Recap

January 2022

January 2022 Peak Flood Stages

• Record

- Newaukum near Chehalis

• Major

- Skookumchuck near Bucoda (near record)
- Chehalis River at Porter
- Chehalis River at Grand Mound

• Moderate

- Chehalis at Centralia (near major)
- Satsop near Satsop (near major)
- Skookumchuck at Centralia

• Minor

- Chehalis near Doty

WEB Cams



Chapman Farms





3rd Party Posts

 **Washington Emergency Management Division** posted a ⚠️ weather alert for Lewis County and 2 other counties. 1h · 🌐

There's lots of flooding potential in Western Washington in the coming days. One area of concern is the Chehalis River and the Skookumchuck River. The Chehalis Basin Flood Authority has potential flood maps & alert systems in place for residents to get warnings. You can find river gages near you and sign up to get notified about flooding issues near you. If flooding impacts you, sign up. You can also look at what areas are forecasted to be impacted by floods using Flood Inun... See more

 **CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN FLOOD AUTHORITY**

Home Map Sites News Dashboards

 Weather Forecast  Rainfall Forecast  River Forecast  Flood Maps  Plot Gage Data  Gage Data Maps



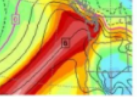


 Landslide  Radar Rainfall  Road Conditions  USGS Gages  Atmospheric Rivers  Chehalis Basin Gage Height Conversion Project

Photo Credit:

👍 🤔 😬 70 8 Comments 66 Shares


👍 Like 🗨️ Comment ➦ Share

 **The Chronicle** 56m · 🌐

If you're trying to decide to stay or go, this tool might be able to help inform your decision. The image below reflects the best projection as to what areas will be flooded if the Skookumchuck River at Centralia reaches 192.4 feet. It is projected to reach 193.1 feet.

Check out predictions in this Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority online tool here: <http://chehalisriverflood.org/>

Disclaimer from the site: Inundation maps show estimated areas of flooding associated with river stages reported or forecast at National Weather Service forecast points. These maps are prepared in advance using assumed storm conditions. The exact extent of flooding during an actual event for an observed or forecast elevation may vary due to specific local storm conditions.

 **CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN FLOOD AUTHORITY**

Flood Inundation Maps

Select a gage location:

Skookumchuck River at Centralia, WA

Current NWS Forecast
185.73 ft
1/6/2022 5:00 PM (observed value)

River Stage (ft)
Have a mouse over river stage to show corresponding flood map

| |
|-----------------------------|
| 184.4 |
| 185.4 |
| 186.4 |
| 187.4 |
| 188.4 |
| Minor Flood Stage |
| 189.4 |
| Moderate Flood Stage |
| 190.4 |
| Major Flood Stage |
| 191.4 |
| 192.4 |

Disclaimer: Inundation maps show estimated areas of flooding associated with river stages reported or forecast at National Weather Service forecast points. These maps are prepared in advance using assumed storm conditions. The exact extent of flooding during an actual event for an observed or forecast elevation may vary due to specific local storm conditions.

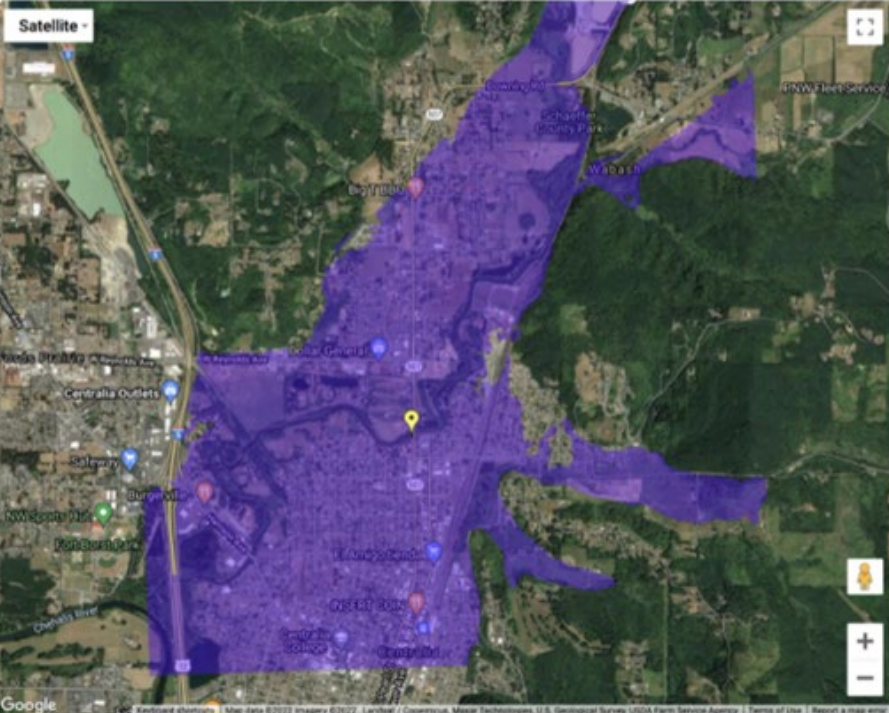


Photo Credit: Google

User Survey – High Water Alerts

Positives

- So that I know when the water is high even if I'm not aware that flooding is possible.
- I manage the Chehalis-Centralia Airport and I need to be kept up to date on events related to flooding.
- I'm a school superintendent. We have to decide on the safe passage of students.
- Friends and family in the area

Needs Improvement

- Need earlier alerts. (NF Newaukum)
- Accuracy of the forecasts and accuracy of the gauges.
- Send alerts more frequently.
- Need specific street locations
- More user-friendly visuals

User Survey – Inundation Maps

Positives


- These are invaluable when planning a response.
- They provide a visual representation of where problems are and are anticipated.
- Ability to assess potential damage areas.
- Great estimation of current flooding
- Great record of past floods
- It was very nice to see the information and plan safety routes

Needs Improvement

- The map could use finer detail around the levee at the Chehalis-Centralia Airport.
- A gauge closer to my home would be helpful in predicting more accurately what has flooded and when to expect
- I wish I could type in various addresses to see those areas in particular.
- Need specific street locations
- More user-friendly visuals
- Update maps



MASTER PLAN 2022-2027

- Hydrometeorological Monitoring
 - Review current network
 - USGS gauge network
 - Snow monitoring
 - Flood Forecast and System Warning System Improvements
 - Improved modeling for the Chehalis River from Grand Mound to Grays Harbor
 - Improved warning times for spill from Skookumchuck Reservoir
 - Review inundation mapping needs
 - Identify website improvements
 - Outreach and social media
- 

WebCams

Looking upriver from Montesano WWTP

Images limited to daylight hours.

Wynoochee River at Montesano, WA

Latest



2022-09-14 15:47:04

Looking upriver at Mellen Street bridge

Images provided throughout the day.

Chehalis River at Centralia, WA

Latest



2022-09-14 15:30:56

Looking at downstream face of Heron St. bridge

Wishkah River at Aberdeen, WA

Latest



2022-09-14 15:48:07

Looking at Wishkah River staff gage

Wishkah River at Aberdeen, WA - zoomed

Latest



2022-09-14 15:48:18

2022/23 Flood Season: Flood Warning System Email Alerts Sign-Up Today!



Chehalis River Basin Flood Warning System sends automatic email alerts about rising river levels at the following gage sites:

- #1 Chehalis River below Thrash Creek -- <https://bit.ly/2JVSzuj>.
- #2 Chehalis River near Doty -- <https://bit.ly/38HTeKq>.
- #3 Newaukum River near Chehalis -- <https://bit.ly/3pzrmhF>.
- #4 Chehalis River at Centralia -- <https://bit.ly/2lq8SPW>.
- #5 Skookumchuck River at Centralia -- <https://bit.ly/3pl1wO2>.
- #6 Skookumchuck River near Bucoda -- <https://bit.ly/2H3lATY>.
- #7 Chehalis River near Grand Mound -- <https://bit.ly/36zBoq1>.
- #8 Chehalis River at Porter -- <https://bit.ly/3ktep4Y>.
- #9 Satsop River near Satsop -- <https://bit.ly/2Us4emC>.
- #10 Wynoochee River near Montesano -- <https://bit.ly/32HnuB3>.
- #11 Chehalis River near Montesano -- <https://bit.ly/36CL9Ed>.
- #12 Wishkah River at Aberdeen -- <https://bit.ly/3w63JR8>.



(Click [here](#) to open Gage Alerts Map.)

Updates

- China Creek Gauge
 - Equipment on order
 - Rating curve
- Flood Warning System Orientation Webinar
 - Chehalis Basin Strategy Coordination
- Gauge Relocations
 - Newaukum rain gage will be moved this fall
 - Chehalis River below Thrash Creek gauge
- 2023 O&M Costs

2022-2023 Rainy Season



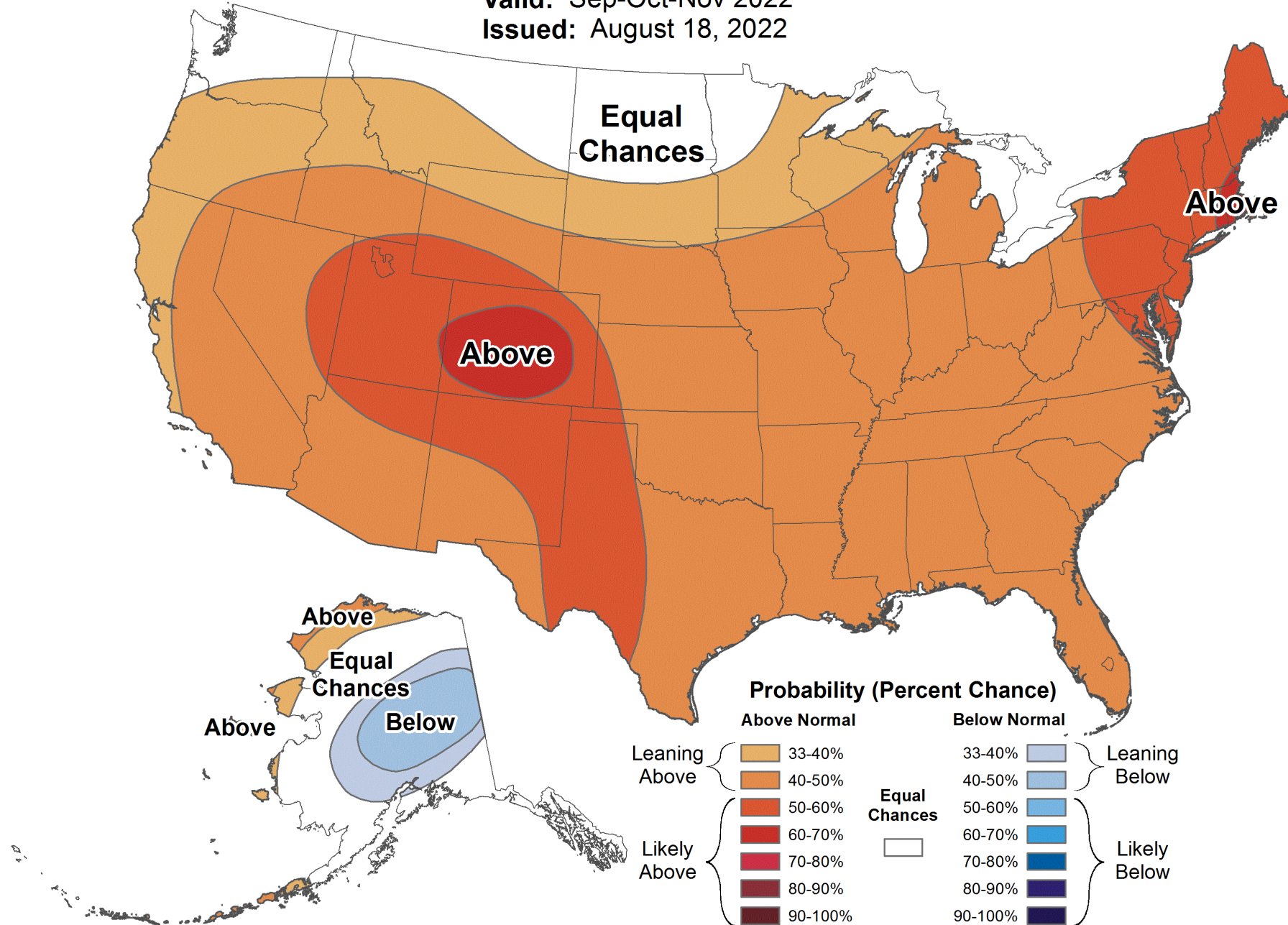
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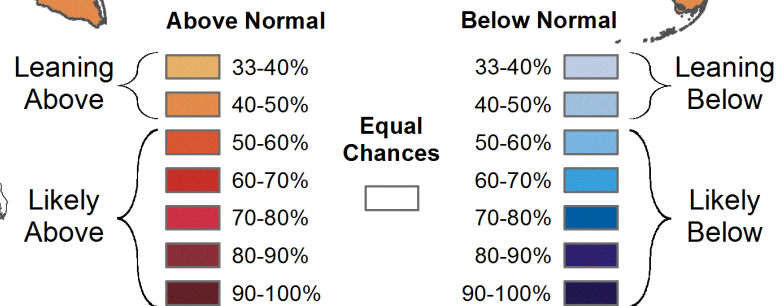
Seasonal Temperature Outlook



Valid: Sep-Oct-Nov 2022
Issued: August 18, 2022



Probability (Percent Chance)

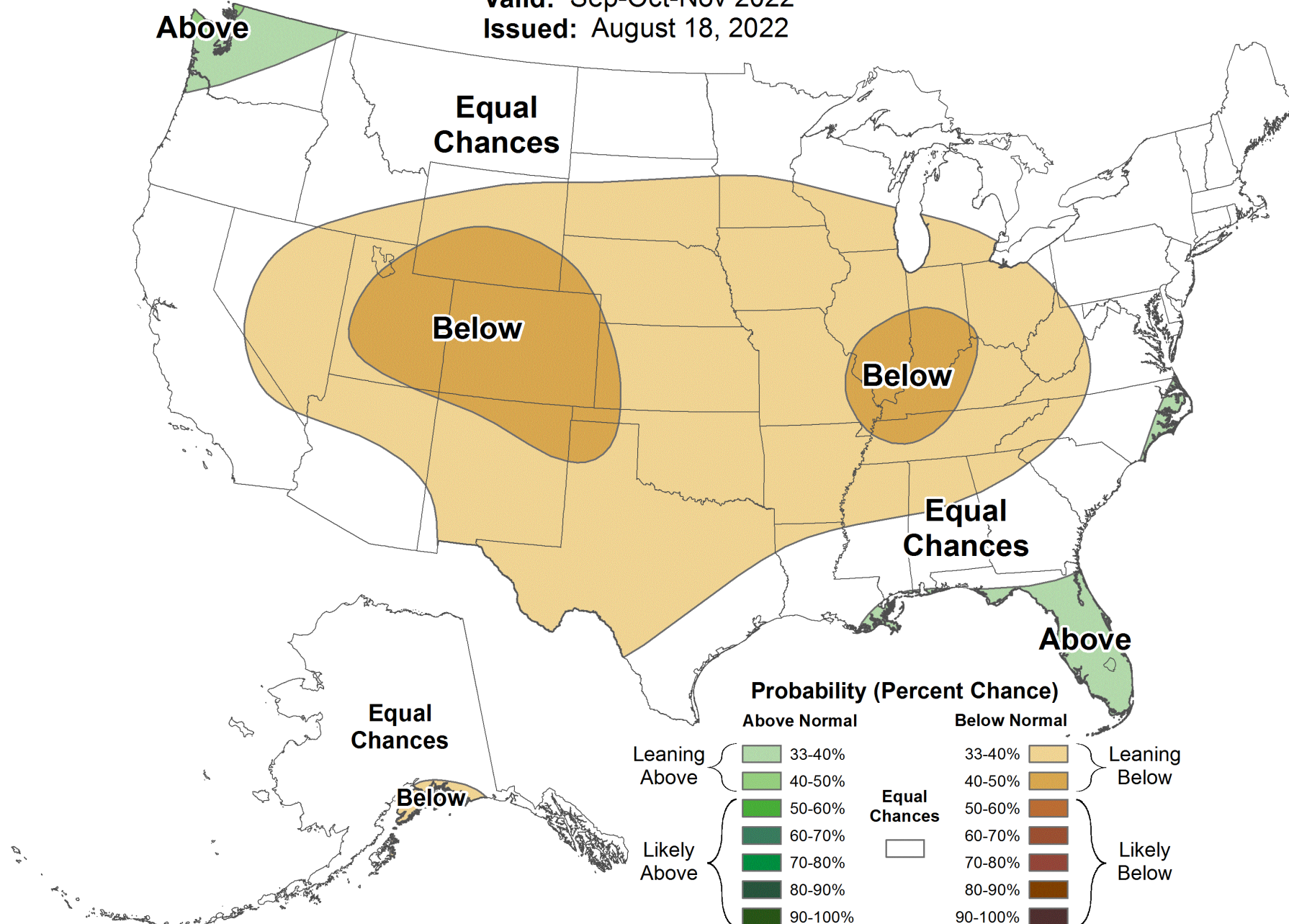




Seasonal Precipitation Outlook



Valid: Sep-Oct-Nov 2022
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Questions

