



# Chehalis Basin Strategy

April 20, 2017

Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority Briefing

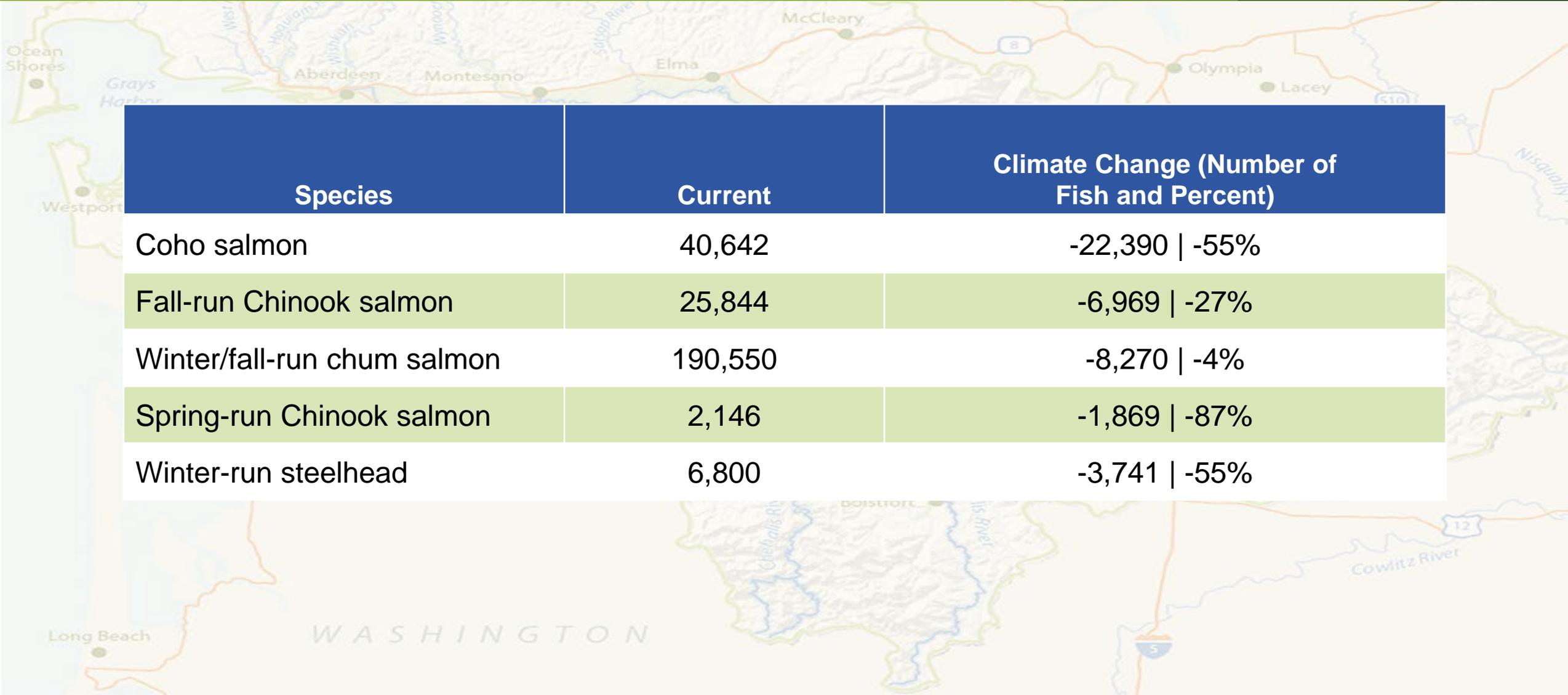
# An Abundant River Basin



# Aquatic Species Are Struggling

- Harvest has been limited by poor runs over the last 30 years
- Habitat productivity has been degraded by up to 80 percent

# Climate Change



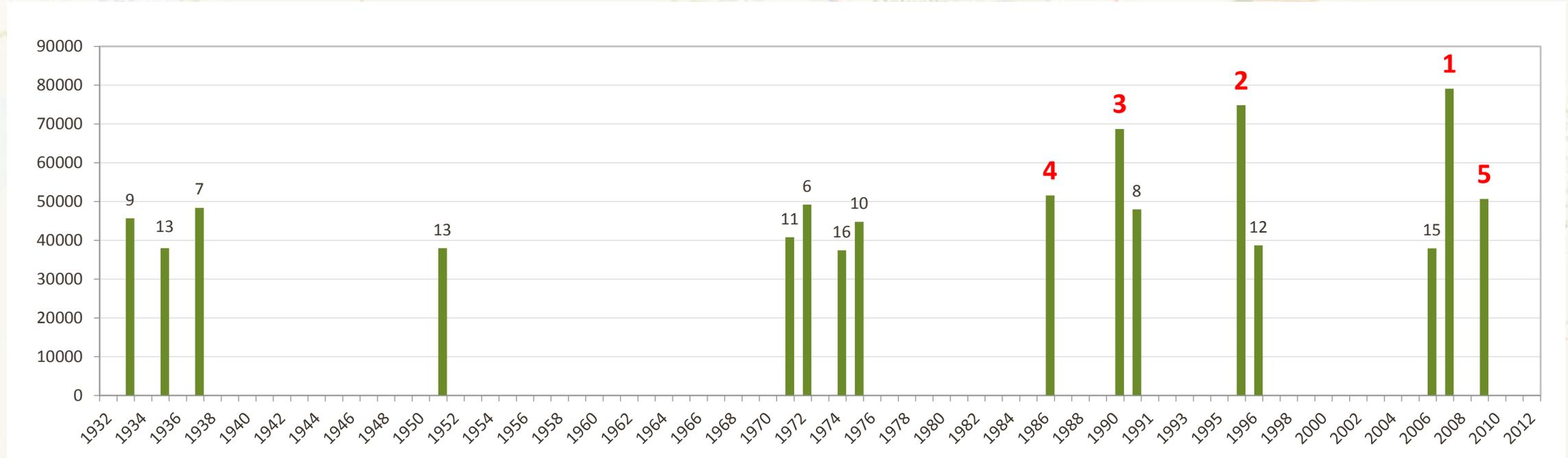
Species	Current	Climate Change (Number of Fish and Percent)
Coho salmon	40,642	-22,390   -55%
Fall-run Chinook salmon	25,844	-6,969   -27%
Winter/fall-run chum salmon	190,550	-8,270   -4%
Spring-run Chinook salmon	2,146	-1,869   -87%
Winter-run steelhead	6,800	-3,741   -55%

# Extreme Flooding



# The Floods Are Getting Worse

- Five largest flood events have occurred since 1986
- I-5 closed in 1990, 1996, 2007, 2009



# A Strategy in the Works...



# ...Chehalis Basin Strategy

# Programmatic EIS

- Released September 2016
- Evaluated effects of different combinations of actions for reducing flood damage and restoring aquatic species habitat
- Final PEIS will be released in mid 2017



# Work Group Recommendations

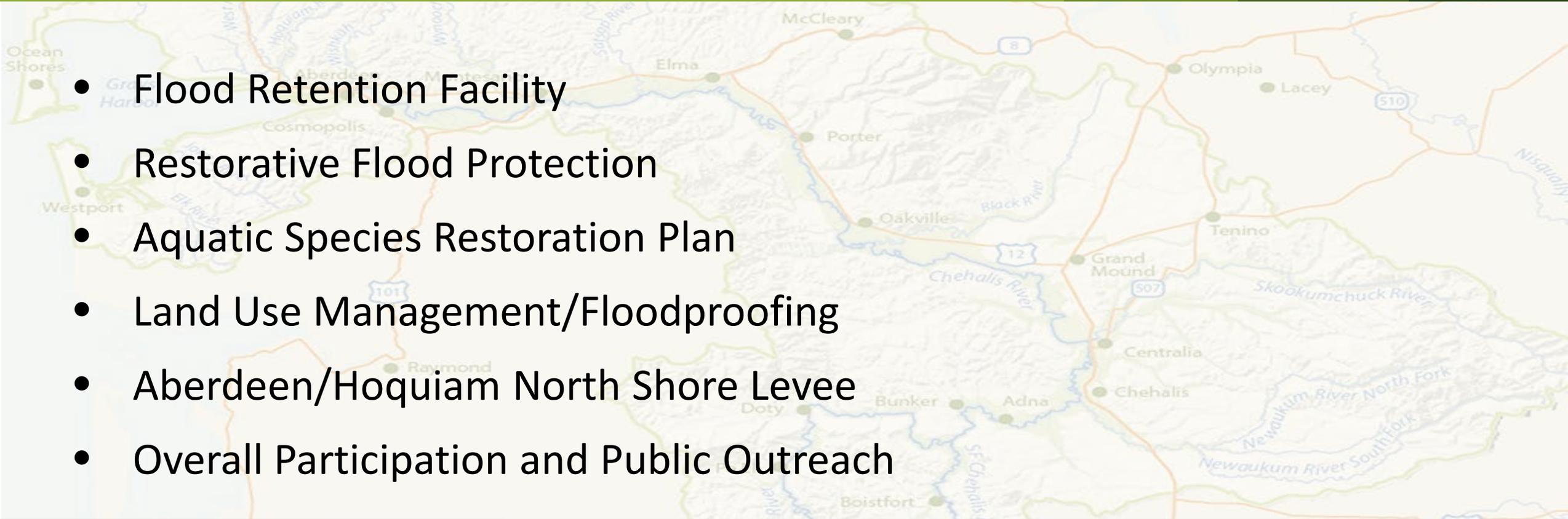
- Work Group is not ready to recommend their preferred long-term strategy
- Recommend continued work in the next biennium to evaluate various action elements and implement priority projects to restore aquatic species habitat and reduce flood damage
- Before the Work Group sunsets and the new Chehalis Board is established, the Work Group will develop additional recommendations for a long-term strategy

# Work Group Recommendations

- \$60 million budget appropriation
  - \$30.4 million (state funds) to advance long-term, integrated strategy
  - \$9.6 million (state funds) for design and construction of local flood damage reduction projects, and
  - \$20 million (\$10 million state/\$10 million federal) to be used for construction of aquatic species habitat restoration projects

# Long-term, Integrated Strategy

- Flood Retention Facility
- Restorative Flood Protection
- Aquatic Species Restoration Plan
- Land Use Management/Floodproofing
- Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee
- Overall Participation and Public Outreach



# Next Steps

2017	2018	2019
Final Programmatic EIS (June)	Governor's 2019-2021 Budget Recommendations (December)	Draft Reports Issued (January)
Continue/Initiate Analyses (July)		Comment Period (ending in March)
Chehalis Board Established (July)		Chehalis Board Recommendations (May)
OCB Director Hired (August)		Final Reports Issued (Fall)

# Continued Engagement

