

May 9, 2019

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To Scott Boettcher Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority:

I contribute ideas and expertise to groups. I look for solutions and take actions and have been recognized by my peers for strategic and visionary leadership. As a member of the Chehalis Basin Board I believe my varied background would help when discussing alternatives solutions for flooding issues in the Chehalis Basin. My career has been spent enhancing and protecting the natural resources of Washington State and has been rewarding and successful. I advocate for the sustainability of our natural resources while promoting social equity.

My educational background includes a Master of Public Administration (MPA) from Evergreen State College where my primary study was natural resource environmental planning and management. My project focused on Washington's water and salmon initiatives and the activity of the Joint Natural Resources Cabinet, including the Government Council on Natural Resources. My report was delivered to the governor's office, tribal leadership, and state agencies. The report was a detailed analysis of past and present water and salmon policy in Washington and included recommendations for future salmon and water resources for the state.

As a resident of Grays Harbor, I am aware of the flooding and dam issues facing the Chehalis basin. I understand problems facing economic development, livestock ownership as well as the environmental perspective of a healthy watershed. I am familiar with the dynamics involved in salmon recovery, restoration and climate change factors on river systems. I have worked in both technical and policy task forces for the Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission and the Hood Canal Coordinating Council. As chairman of "Save the Resources" in Port Townsend I received the Jefferson County "Conservationist of the Year" for protection of Puget Sound. My activism encompasses many years and includes being selected by the original Puget Sound Alliance as the representative for Hood Canal and the Straits of Juan De Fuca. As a Watershed Coordinator and Administrator for a Soil and Water Conservation District, I worked with private landowners (non-agricultural and agricultural) on issues ranging from development of farm plans for erosion and pollution control to fish habitat restoration. As an employee for the Quileute and Skokomish Tribe's I was active in tribal, local, statewide land use issues, salmon recovery and water quality concerns.

The planning decisions for the Chehalis system have important economic and environmental consequence. I believe my perspective would be valuable in the planning for the basin. My vision and long-term commitment to the natural resources of Washington has been proven. So, in closing please consider me to help contribute to the long-term sustainability of the Chehalis basin.

I will commit to regularly scheduled Chehalis Basin Board meetings.

Respectfully yours,

Ron Figlar-Barnes