

**ESB 5127- Jobs Now Act
Implementation in the Chehalis River Basin**

May 17, 2012 DRAFT

Basic assumptions:

- The \$5 million allocated for the Chehalis River Basin is to benefit all areas of the Chehalis Basin.
- Projects should provide benefits to help address the impact of flooding, and not worsen the impact of flooding on others.
- Some projects will require implementation during the instream work windows to avoid impacting fish; this will require careful and timely planning and implementation.
- Per the legislative requirements, allotment of funds by the Office of Financial Management depends on review and approval by the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority and the Chehalis Tribe.

Funding availability/opportunities:

- Funding is available now and to be spent by June 30, 2012; although the Legislature may choose to extend funding or allow for expenditure of encumbered funds beyond that date, there are no guarantees.
- Funding is meant to be used for getting projects on the ground and creating jobs. Funding may be used for project design, engineering, and permitting to facilitate project implementation.

Project identification:

- ESB 5127 specifically calls out a number of projects. Additional information on these projects is being pulled together immediately, including readiness, permitting, etc.
- A number of the sub-sections include opportunities for additional projects, including levees/dikes and culverts. The Flood Authority has identified a number of opportunities throughout the Basin in its Project Matrix that may fit these categories. Additional information is being developed.

Project review and approval process:

- Projects must be reviewed and approved by the Flood Authority and the Chehalis Tribe.
- Steps for review and approval:
 1. Develop and share project information packet with Flood Authority/Chehalis Tribe
 2. Timely review (30 days max?)
 3. Sign review and approval sheet (to be developed); submit to OFM.
- Projects will be tracked, including the number of jobs created.

Question:

- Stakeholder/public input?