

CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

Date: January 9, 2020
Time: 9:00 am to 3:00 pm
Location: Aberdeen Rotary Log Pavilion - 1401 Sargent Blvd., Aberdeen WA 98520

ITEM	FORMAL ACTION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
1. Consent January 9, 2020 Agenda; Approval of September 5, 2019 Meeting Summary. Approval of October 3, Meeting Summary. Approval of 2020 Board regular monthly meeting dates.	Decision: Agenda approved. September 5 meeting summary approved. October 3 meeting summary approved. 2020 Board regular monthly meeting dates approved.	No follow-up action.
2. Additional 2020 Board Special Meeting Dates	Decision: Additional 2020 Board special meeting dates approved.	OCB staff will send out calendar invites for additional special Board meeting dates. OCB staff will update calendar invites as special meeting locations are identified.
3. Chehalis Basin Board Quorum Requirement Change	Decision: Chehalis Basin Board Quorum Requirement Change approved.	OCB Staff will update the Chehalis Basin Board Handbook to reflect the change in quorum requirements. Board Handbook updates will be brought to the Board at a future meeting for final approval.
4. Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP)	Discussion	WDFW staff will provide a more detailed briefing on ASRP Phase 1 public comments and feedback from the ASRP Symposium at the February Board meeting.
5. Perspectives from Yakima Basin Integrated Plan	Discussion	No follow-up action.
6. 2020 Legislative Session Preview	Decision: Chehalis Basin Board approved sending Rep. Blake a letter of support for HB2109.	OCB Director McNamara Doyle will send Board members a weekly email summarizing legislative updates and potential bills that pertain to the Chehalis Basin Board. If deemed necessary, OCB

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		<p>staff will schedule a special Board meeting to discuss such bills or legislation.</p> <p>OCB Staff will draft a letter of support for HB2109 on behalf of the Board and send it to Representative Blake and House Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Committee before the public hearing on January 13, 2020.</p> <p>OCB Staff will schedule a Chehalis Basin Board special meeting directly following the release of new bill language for Rep. DeBolt's substitute to HB1154, so the Board can consider taking a position on the bill.</p> <p>QIN staff will provide the Board a written description of the project needs, including timing and funding for the Chinook genetics study.</p> <p>At a future meeting, OCB staff will provide the Board a summary of CBB budget spending and allocations through the first half of the biennium, additional supplemental budget requests received that were not part of the original 2019-2021 budget, and any budget adjustments needed moving into the second half of the biennium.</p> <p>OCB staff will develop draft legislative talking points for Board members to use during the current legislative session.</p>
7. Washington DC Trip Debrief	Discussion	No follow-up action.
8. Draft Chehalis Basin Fish Passage Barrier Prioritization Tool	Discussion	No follow-up action.

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9. Next Steps and Closing	Discussion	The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2020.

Attendees

Chehalis Basin Board Members Present:

- Edna Fund, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- J. Vander Stoep, Office of the Governor
- Jay Gordon, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Steve Malloch, Office of the Governor
- Tyson Johnston, Quinault Indian Nation

Chehalis Basin Board Ex-Officio Members Present:

- Bart Gernhart, Department of Transportation
- Gordon White, Department of Ecology
- Stephen Bernath, Department of Natural Resources
- Michael Garrity, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Stu Trefry, Conservation Commission

Board Staff/Board Guests Present on Sign-In Sheet:

- See Attachment A

Welcome, Introductions

Chair Vickie Raines was unable to attend the meeting. Board member Edna Fund called the meeting to order at 9:22 a.m. and welcomed the Board, staff, and audience. Board members and attendees provided brief introductions.

Consent Agenda

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [January 9, 2020 meeting agenda](#).

BOARD DECISION: Agenda approved by consensus with all voting member's thumbs up.

Approval of September 5, 2019 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [September 5, 2019 meeting summary](#).

BOARD DECISION: September 5, 2019 meeting summary approved by consensus with all voting member's thumbs up.

Approval of October 3, 2019 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [October 3, 2019 meeting summary](#).

BOARD DECISION: October 3, 2019 meeting summary approved by consensus with all voting member's thumbs up.

Approval of 2020 Board regular monthly meeting dates

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [2020 Board regular monthly meeting dates](#).

BOARD DECISION: Regular 2020 Board meeting dates were ratified by consensus with all voting member's thumbs up.

Approval of additional 2020 Board Special Meeting Dates

OCB Director McNamara Doyle reviewed additional special Board meeting dates to hold in the late summer/early fall 2020 timeframe. The special meetings would provide the Board additional time to review, digest, and deliberate on the many work products scheduled for release in the summer and fall of 2020, and to receive and incorporate public comment on how those work products inform their recommendations on a long-term strategy in the timeframe for preparing 2021-2023 budget recommendations to the Governor (fall of 2020).

Proposed additional meeting dates:

- Thu, August 20, 2020 at 1:30 pm
- Wed, September 9, 2020 at 7:00 pm
- Thu, September 10, 2020 at 7:00 pm
- Thu, September 17, 2020 at 1:30 pm
- Wed, September 30, 2020 at 9:00 am
- Thu, October 15, 2020 at 1:30 pm

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members noted the two public hearings scheduled for 9/9 and 9/10 would be intended to give the public the opportunity to comment on all elements of the long-term strategy, for the Board's consideration when developing its recommendations.
- Board members expressed interest in understanding the timing of the public hearings in relation to the release of the draft NEPA EIS. OCB staff noted the value of having public hearings in advance of the draft NEPA EIS release so that it is clear the Board is taking comments on the Chehalis Basin long-term strategy assessment and not the draft NEPA EIS.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB staff will send out calendar invites for additional special Board meeting dates. OCB staff will update calendar invites as special meeting locations are identified.

BOARD DECISION: Special 2020 Board meeting dates were approved by consensus with all voting member's thumbs up.

Chehalis Basin Board Quorum Requirement Change

OCB Director McNamara Doyle presented a staff recommendation that the Board approve a change to the Board Handbook that would set the Board's quorum at four voting members instead of five voting members. No changes were recommended to the Board's consensus decision-making process. From time to time since its inception, the Board has had difficulty securing the attendance of five voting members. When there have been unexpected illnesses or other last-minute scheduling conflicts, the Board has had to cancel meetings or defer decisions and actions due to lack of a quorum.

Below is a link to the Chehalis Basin Board Quorum Requirement memo:

- [Chehalis Basin Board Quorum Requirement memo](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members noted that if the quorum revisions are approved, Washington Open Public Meetings Act laws would then apply to any activity that had four or more voting members in attendance.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB Staff will update the Chehalis Basin Board Handbook to reflect the change in quorum requirements. Handbook updates will be brought to the Board for final approval.

BOARD DECISION: A quorum requirement change that set the Board's quorum at four voting members instead of five voting members was approved by consensus with all voting member's thumbs up.

Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP)

Emelie McKain (Department of Fish and Wildlife) provided updates on the ASRP Symposium and outreach related to the ASRP Phase 1 document. The ASRP Phase 1 document was published November 15, 2019 and WDFW has provided several post-publication presentations to stakeholders. WDFW and Ecology also did a joint social media campaign to raise awareness of the Phase 1 ASRP, reaching 74,000 people.

The ASRP Symposium was held on January 7-8, 2020. During the two-day event, it brought over 150 community members, scientists and restoration professionals together. Day 1 of the event focused on sharing ongoing research that has informed the development of the Phase 1 ASRP, as well as implementation planning. Day 2 included interactive activities discussing topics ranging from building resiliency back into the Chehalis Basin, to developing community-based solutions to implementation challenges.

ASRP Steering Committee Voting Members Dave Bingaman (Quinault Nation Natural Resources Director) and Nicole Czarnomski (Department of Fish and Wildlife) shared their perspectives on the ASRP Phase 1 document with the Board. Both Dave and Nicole acknowledged the unprecedented nature of the ASRP, the movement from a data poor to data rich Basin (though data gaps still exist), and the need for immediate action to address the threats from climate change. Dave and Nicole also noted the critical role that landowners will need to play to ensure effective implementation, the importance of streamlining processes to make implementation more efficient and effective for landowners, regulators,

and implementers, and long-term funding commitments. Both Dave and Nicole also stressed the value in identifying and protecting currently well-functioning habitat throughout the Basin, in addition to restoring degraded habitat.

Below are links to Chehalis Basin Strategy Aquatic Species Restoration Plan handouts:

- [Chehalis Basin Strategy Aquatic Species Restoration Plan PowerPoint](#)
- [Aquatic Species Restoration Plan Phase 1 Flyer](#)
- [ASRP Phase 1 Executive Summary](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members agreed with Dave and Nicole's point about the importance of protecting well-functioning habitat in the Basin, including through land use regulation.
- Board members highlighted the importance of understanding landowner willingness and being responsive to individuals that are open to implementing voluntary activities on their land.
- Board members are interested in better understanding how the improved scientific understanding of the Basin connects to the strategies and actions proposed in the Phase 1 ASRP.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: WDFW staff will provide a more detailed briefing on ASRP Phase 1 public comments and feedback from the ASRP Symposium at the February Board meeting.

Perspectives from Yakima Basin Integrated Plan

OCB Director McNamara Doyle introduced Steve Malloch (Board Member), Scott Revel (Director, Roza Irrigation District), and Tom Tebb (Director, Office of Columbia River) to discuss how the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP) developed assurances for its long-term strategy.

Tom and Scott both noted that, similar to the Chehalis Basin, doing nothing in the Yakima Basin was unacceptable. Developing assurances required understanding your own needs and rights and those of others in the Basin and finding ways to make accommodations. Truly listening to one another and spending time together has been critical to the success of the YBIP.

Tom and Scott noted that the YBIP uses seven elements to monitor success and that having more elements has created opportunities to identify and implement multiple-benefit actions. Each element may have varying levels of commitment and success at specific times, but over time they balance out and help build trust and commitment between different groups. Each stakeholder group in the YBIP is interested in several of the seven elements. There is also practicality in having more elements because it is easier to look at large-scale issues in small pieces.

The YBIP has split the 30-year effort into three, 10-year phases. The first 10-year phase is meant to clearly show decision makers and appropriators that implementation is possible and can benefit all interested parties.

Tom and Scott encouraged the Chehalis Basin Board to listen to each other's needs and be thoughtful on laying the groundwork for the long-term strategy, look for federal partners to help take the strategy to the next level, and find resources in the community to act as allies throughout the process.

Below is a link to the Yakima Basin Integrated Plan:

- [Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Summary](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members discussed early decision making for the long term YBIP, and the need to develop consensus on a number of challenging issues. There is likely to be a similar dynamic for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.
- Board members discussed how everyone might have differing priorities for the long-term strategy, but having those differences can encourage compromise.
- Board members discussed the importance of succession planning and documenting historical and institutional knowledge.

2020 Legislative Session Preview

OCB Director McNamara Doyle provided a number of updates on the 2020 legislative session. Board members were reminded of communication protocols and Public Disclosure Commission requirements when interacting with legislators on behalf of the Board.

OCB Director McNamara Doyle requested confirmation by the Board to maintain the same approach for communication during the legislative session as during the prior session, including weekly emails summarizing legislative updates and bills that may pertain to the Chehalis Basin Board. If deemed necessary, OCB staff will schedule a special Board meeting to discuss such bills or legislation.

Additional legislative activity included a supplemental budget request by Weyerhaeuser for a third-party appraisal of the timberlands within the Flood Control Zone District's proposed flood retention facility project site. There were also two bills carried over from 2019:

- HB1154 introduced by Representative DeBolt authorizes the state finance committee to issue general obligation bonds to finance Chehalis Basin flood damage reduction and aquatic species habitat restoration projects. This bill would be intended to authorize the sale of state bonds in phases over the course of several biennia.
- Newly released SB6345 (previously SB5136) introduced by Senator Honeyford would establish a new large-scale program to fund water infrastructure projects. This bill would consolidate the review of funding for flood related projects statewide and place them under the Office of Chehalis Basin.

Tyson Johnston (Quinault Indian Nation) noted for the Board HB2109, introduced by Representative Blake. This bill would ensure that both the Quinault Indian Nation and the Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation can appoint an alternate voting delegate to the Chehalis Basin Board, so that

voting rights are preserved in the event the currently designated Board member is not able to attend a Board meeting.

Below are links to HB1154, HB2109, SB6345:

- [HB1154 - Concerning the financing of Chehalis basin flood damage reduction and habitat restoration projects](#)
- [HB2109 - Concerning membership of the Chehalis board](#)
- [SB6345 - Establishing the water infrastructure program](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members agreed to maintain the same legislative communication protocols during the current legislative session as last session. This includes weekly emails and special meetings, if needed.
- Board members agreed that based on the current language within HB1154 and the pending introduction of substitute language, a special meeting should be called before the February Board meeting for the Board to discuss whether to take a formal position on the bill.
- Dave Bingaman asked the Board to consider providing full or partial funding for a Chinook genetics study being conducted by UC Davis that will cost \$380,000 over the next three years. The QIN has already provided \$140,000 of its own funding for the first year of the study.
- Board members asked OCB staff to provide a summary of CBB budget spending and allocations through the first half of the biennium, additional supplemental budget requests received that were not part of the original 2019-2021 budget, and any budget adjustments needed moving into the second half of the biennium.
- Board members asked for specific legislative talking points, including the talking points from the trip some Board members took to Washington DC, and high-level messages related to the overall strategy and budget.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

- OCB Director McNamara Doyle will send Board members a weekly email summarizing legislative updates and potential bills that pertain to the Chehalis Basin Board. If deemed necessary, OCB staff will schedule a special Board meeting to discuss such bills or legislation.
- OCB Staff will draft a letter of support for HB2109 on behalf of the Board and send it to Representative Blake and House Rural Development, Agriculture, & Natural Resources Committee before the first reading on January 13, 2020.
- OCB Staff will schedule a Chehalis Basin Board special meeting directly following the release of new bill language for Rep. DeBolt's substitute to HB1154 so the Board can consider taking a position on the bill.
- QIN staff will provide the Board a written description of the project needs for the Chinook genetics study, including timing and funding needs.
- At a future meeting, OCB staff will provide the Board a summary of CBB budget spending and allocations through the first half of the biennium, additional supplemental budget requests

received that were not part of the original 2019-2021 budget, and any budget adjustments needed moving into the second half of the biennium.

- OCB staff will develop draft legislative talking points for Board members to use during the current legislative session.

Washington DC Trip Debrief

OCB Director McNamara Doyle and participating Board members provided reflections on their October 2019 trip to Washington DC to raise awareness of the Strategy with congressional leaders and federal agencies.

Key comments and discussion topics from Board members included:

- Interactions in DC were successful because Board members were able to show tangible progress on the Strategy.
- Federal legislators were surprised by the level of progress that has been made since the last legislative session.
- Board members discussed the idea of pushing for more federal funding support as the Board clarifies its recommendations on a long-term strategy for funding and implementation.
- Federal legislators appreciated the fact that this effort has maintained significant bipartisan support.

Draft Chehalis Basin Fish Passage Barrier Prioritization Tool

Christopher Dwight (WDFW) presented the new draft Chehalis Basin Fish Passage Barrier Prioritization Tool and discussed its relationship to existing barrier correction prioritization efforts. The main goal of this tool is to build a user-friendly interactive map. The draft tool currently includes 4,500 sites and 2,500 barrier data points within the Chehalis Basin, which is the most detailed stream passage mapping in Washington State. This tool will guide and inform fish passage restoration within the Chehalis Basin and help communication between with upstream and downstream jurisdictions and landowners that are coordinating barrier corrections.

Below is the link to WDFW Barrier Prioritization presentation:

- [WDFW Barrier Prioritization](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members were interested in understanding more about how WDFW categorized barriers (regional, private, county) and how WDFW used priority ranking for barriers.
- Board members were interested in the cost to move this from draft to full implementation.
- WDFW is currently evaluating the economic optimization of barriers, but identifying ownership of barriers can be challenging during this evaluation.
- One challenge that WDFW faces is having complete data sets that capture barrier projects that if corrected, would have multiple benefits.

- Bart Gernhart (WSDOT) reminded the Board that there is a significant effort by WSDOT to ramp up its barrier correction efforts but there are funding challenges that will affect their ability to finish projects by 2030.

Next Steps and Closing

The next Board meeting is scheduled for February 6, 2020 at the Chehalis Tribe Gathering Center in Oakville, WA.

Attachment A

Board Staff/Board Guests on Sign-In Sheet:

- Andrea McNamara Doyle, Department Of Ecology, Director Of Office Of Chehalis Basin
- Bob Amrine, Lewis Co Conservation District
- Brian Stewart, Conservation Northwest
- Celina Abercrombie, Washington Department Of Fish And Wildlife
- Chrissy Bailey, Department Of Ecology, Office Of Chehalis Basin
- Chris Davis, Office of the Governor
- Chris Dwight, Washington Department Of Fish And Wildlife
- Cindy Bradley, Department Of Ecology, Office Of Chehalis Basin
- Emelie McKain, Washington Department Of Fish And Wildlife
- Dave Bingaman, Quinault Indian Nation
- Eric Marin, Chehalis River Flood Control Zone District
- Heather Page, Anchor QEA
- Jim Kramer, Ruckelshaus Center (Facilitator)
- Ken Ghalambor, Ross Strategic
- Kirsten Harma, Chehalis Basin Lead Entity
- Lee First, Twin Harbors Water Keepers
- Rich Sangder, City of Aberdeen