# Chehalis Basin Strategy Aquatic Species Discussion

April 4th Board Presentation

ASRP Overview

# Aquatic Species Restoration Plan
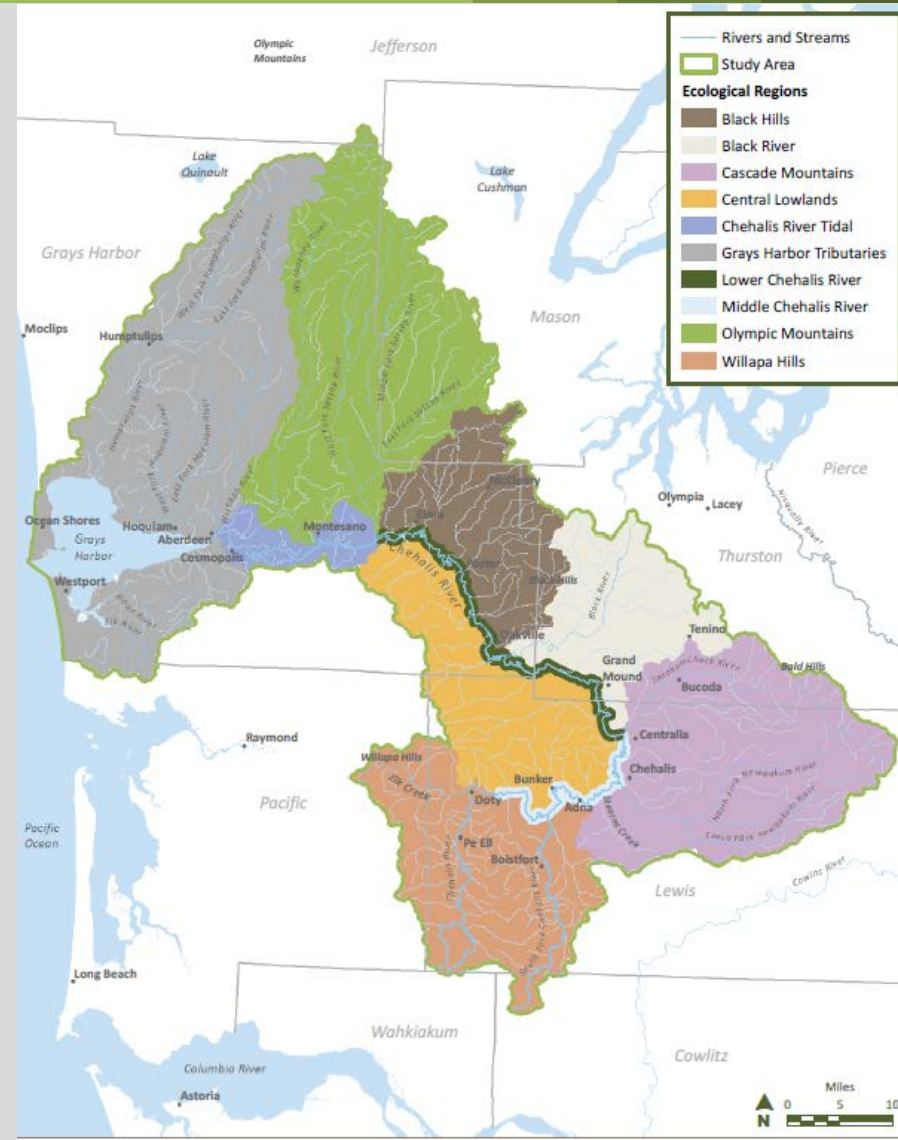
**Four Major Strategies**

- Restoration
- Protection
- Institutional Capacity
- Community Planning & Involvement

# ASRP Spatial Scale

Basin is divided into 10 ecological diversity regions.

- Distinct ecological characteristics
- Unique geologic features

# ASRP Vision

To provide for a future where the Chehalis Basin can support healthy and harvestable salmon populations, robust and diverse populations of native aquatic and semi-aquatic species, and productive, self-sustaining ecosystems that are resilient to climate change and anthropogenic stressors, while also honoring the social, economic, and cultural values of the region.



Large wood on the Humptulips



Upper East Fork Satsop wetland complex

# What is Working

1. Forest practices have been improved

# What is Working

2. Most diverse basin in the state for amphibians

# What is Working

3. Significant runs of wild and hatchery salmon

# What is Working

4. Important cold-water springs and tributaries

# What is Working

5. Opportunity for restoration is one of the most significant in the state

# What is Not Working: Causes

1. Lack of suitable habitat, food availability

# What is Not Working

2. Riparian areas outside of managed forests significantly degraded

# What is Not Working

3. Summer temperatures are hot, and getting worse

# What is Not Working

4. Lack of large wood in streams

# What is Not Working

5. Exotic species are abundant

# What is Not Working

6. Development pressure due to population growth

# What is Not Working

7. Land use practices/policies

# What is Not Working

8. 90% of floodplain wetlands have be degraded or lost

# Effects of Broken Attributes

- Lower survival rates of salmon and other native species
- Limited wetland habitat for all species
- Unnatural erosion rates and incision
- Spring Chinook are currently at critically low levels
- Salmon harvest opportunities are severely limited

# ASRP Approach

- Address what is broken
- Protect and enhance what is working
- Re-establish natural processes
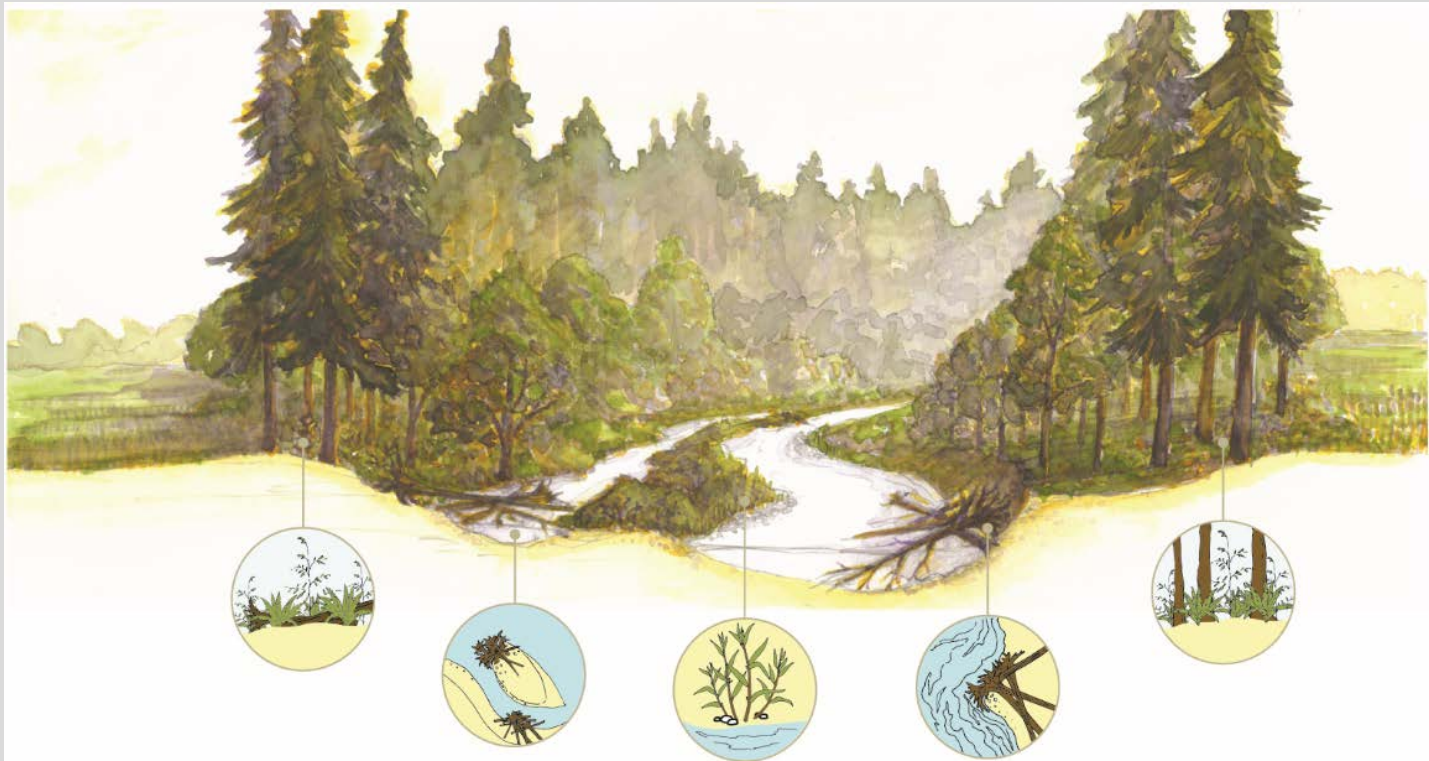
# Early Action Sub-basins

Sub-basins selected for early action:

- Newaukum River
- South Fork Chehalis River
- Skookumchuck River
- Satsop River
- Wynoochee River