

CHEHALIS BASIN STRATEGY: POTENTIAL 2017-2019 TIMELINE

(DRAFT 6/28/17)

This document provides a preliminary summary of issues or topics that are likely to come before the Chehalis Basin Board for input, discussion, or decision throughout the 2017-2019 biennium. This is meant to serve as a discussion document for the July 7 Chehalis Basin Board meeting; refinements to this list and additional topics are anticipated as the overall 2017-2019 work plan and budget is refined.

Regularly Occurring Board Agenda Topics

In addition to the topics listed under each quarter of the eight-quarter 2017-2019 biennium below, the following topics are anticipated to be regularly occurring Chehalis Basin Board agenda topics:

- Site visits/field tours
- Opportunities to hear from entities representing the diversity of interests in the basin
- Office of Chehalis Basin Director updates, including emerging issues, progress on milestones, and work plan and budget updates
- Public comments

1st Quarter (July – September 2017)

- Participating in Office of Chehalis Basin (OCB) Director hiring process
- Finalizing Chehalis Basin Board procedures and guiding principles, including decision-making process, code of ethics/conflict of interest policy, and other administrative procedures
- Defining process for developing Chehalis Basin Board goals and objectives for reducing flood damage and restoring aquatic habitat
- Coordinating with DNR on proposal to address forestry and hydrology concerns in Chehalis Basin
- Interacting with Lewis County Flood Control Zone District and Ecology on purpose and need and alternatives for project-level SEPA/NEPA EIS(s) for a dam/airport levee improvements
- Developing a public engagement strategy
- Staff briefings on initiation of 2017-2019 core areas of work:
 - Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP)
 - Large-scale flood damage reduction proposals: SEPA/NEPA EIS(s) for dam/airport levee improvements, Restorative Flood Protection (RFP) analyses, Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee
 - Local flood damage reduction projects, including the Centralia China Creek (Phase II) flood and habitat mitigation project, Montesano Wastewater Treatment Plant Wynoochee River bank protection project, and Thurston County Independence Road flood study
 - Floodproofing

- Floodplain management

2nd Quarter (October – December 2017)

- Briefing on OCB staff hiring progress
- Identifying draft Chehalis Basin Board goals and objectives for reducing flood damage and restoring aquatic species
- Providing input on EIS draft alternatives and purpose and need prior to scoping
- Participating in public scoping meetings on SEPA/NEPA project-level EIS(s), with input from the scoping meetings discussed with the Chehalis Basin Board
- Briefing on proposed fish and wildlife mitigation strategy development approach for project-level SEPA/NEPA EIS(s)
- Briefing on development of draft ASRP summary document that includes vision, goals, objectives, initial strategies, and cost estimates
- Briefing on ecosystem services valuation process for Comparative Economic Analysis
- Briefing on 2017-2019 contracts, agreements, memoranda of understanding, etc.

3rd Quarter (January – March 2018)

- Discussing ‘sequencing’ (timing, level of funding and action commitments for aquatic species habitat restoration relative to large scale flood damage reduction actions)
- Briefings and reviews of OCB work elements:
 - ASRP detailed strategies and actions
 - RFP landowner and community outreach
 - EIS scope and alternatives, and update on technical studies
 - Updated floodplain structure survey and elevation certificate work
 - Floodplain management
 - Local flood damage reduction projects

4th Quarter (April – June 2018)

- Engaging with Ecology budget request development for 2019-2021
- Briefing on ASRP early action reach selection and barrier removal projects
- Discussing initial consideration of objectives, schedule and quantifiable measures for floodproofing and other work plan elements (excluding RFP and dam/airport levee improvements)

5th Quarter (July – September 2018)

- Providing full draft of ASRP with Chehalis Basin Board, governing entities and key stakeholders for review

- Briefing on EIS preliminary findings and public outreach
- Briefing on RFP conceptual level design and upland land use strategy
- Discussing continued outreach for RFP and EIS, for 6th quarter
- Initiating local flood damage reduction and floodproofing project lists process with Flood Authority

6th Quarter (October – December 2018)

- Developing Chehalis Basin Board 2019-2021 budget recommendations to Governor, including proposed projects lists
- Adopting recommended basin-wide floodproofing program strategy
- Updated briefings on work elements and draft reports:
 - ASRP
 - RFP
 - Project level SEPA/NEPA EIS(s) for dam/airport levee improvements
 - Local scale flood damage reduction
 - Floodproofing and floodplain management
 - Land use recommendations
- Development of draft long-term strategy assessment report

7th Quarter (January – March 2019)

- Draft reports issued for public comment and review by the Chehalis Basin Board
 - RFP
 - Project level NEPA/SEPA EIS(s) for dam/airport levee improvements
 - Land use recommendations
 - ASRP
- Draft long-term strategy assessment report issued by the Chehalis Basin Board for public review
- Public outreach, engagement, and public meetings for all draft reports issued

8th Quarter (April – June 2019)

- Briefing on comments received on all draft reports
- Development of comprehensive Chehalis Basin Strategy including an implementation schedule and quantified measures for evaluating the success of implementation