

# MEMORANDUM

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**Date:** June 1, 2018  
**To:** Chehalis Basin Board  
**From:** Chrissy Bailey, Office of Chehalis Basin (OCB)  
**Re:** Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP) Relationship to Flood Damage Reduction

The Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP) Steering Committee on May 16, 2018 considered the following draft description for how the ASRP is being developed regarding the possibility of implementation of the large scale flood damage reduction actions being considered for the Chehalis Basin Strategy (dam in the upper Chehalis, Restorative Flood Protection action, levees, etc.):

1. The ASRP is not mitigation for aquatic species impacts associated with any of the large scale flood damage reduction actions being considered for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.
2. The process envisioned for developing the ASRP in light of the possibility of large scale flood damage reduction actions:
  - a. The ASRP is being developed based on the existing conditions in the basin. Strategic prioritization for protection and restoration actions will include the areas of the basin that could be affected by large scale flood damage reduction actions. This means that the ASRP is likely to include protection and restoration action recommendations for areas upstream of the proposed dam site, in the Newaukum sub-basin, and around the airport levee.
  - b. The work plan for the Steering Committee and Science and Review Team (SRT) includes an assessment of how the identified impacts and mitigation for large scale flood damage reduction actions will affect the ASRP. This assessment may be included in evaluations regarding the large scale flood damage reduction actions (EIS for the dam and airport levee, Restorative Flood Protection reports, long term strategy assessment, etc.) based on agency decisions (Ecology, Corps, etc.) and timing of information and results being available.
  - c. When the Chehalis Basin Board recommends advancing specific large scale flood damage reduction actions, then the ASRP will need to be reexamined to determine any strategies and actions pre-empted or no longer beneficial. Alternate strategies, actions, and locations may need to be developed.
3. There are many questions yet to be answered, but the above process describes the general intent to keep the ASRP clearly separate from any mitigation associated with potential large scale flood damage reduction actions.

In addition to the Steering Committee recommendation, OCB staff believe it is possible that mitigation proposals for aquatic species impacts resulting from large scale flood damage reduction actions (particularly the dam and airport levee) may include projects recommended in the ASRP. If ASRP restoration or protection projects are included as mitigation for impacts from flood damage reduction actions, they should no longer be counted towards ASRP “results”. In such cases, alternative ASRP projects may need to be identified to compensate for the reduction in anticipated benefits.