

## 2023-2025 Budget Worksheet

### Work Element

Community Flood Assistance and Resilience (CFAR)

### Summary of 2023-2025 Work

The CFAR program seeks to support local and tribal governments and residents in the Chehalis Basin by improving their understanding of flood regulations and flood insurance, improving local flood policies and regulations, and reducing the exposure of structures to flood damage.

### Description of Needs

CFAR directly addresses the OCB charge to “aggressively pursue flood damage reduction” in the Chehalis Basin. It is the only program in the OCB portfolio to:

- Work directly with local governments to improve their flood codes, potentially adding them to FEMA’s Community Rating System and reducing flood insurance rates for residents.
- Provide basin residents with information about how to reduce their exposure to flood damages.
- Provide funding directly to basin residents to floodproof, elevate, move, or remove structures at risk of flooding.

CFAR’s work is a central component of the (currently in development) Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative.

### List of Key Tasks & Assumptions

Assumptions:

1. CFAR consultants and staff will continue to provide technical support to local government officials, property owners, and residents. As OCB staff gain expertise, OCB staff will play an increasing role in conducting on-the-ground outreach and technical assistance, and there will be less reliance on consultant support for these activities throughout the biennium.
2. OCB staff will work with RCO to finalize an approach for contracting CFAR work on private structures well before the end of the 21-23 biennium. This is currently being actively pursued.
3. An expanded version of CFAR is assumed to be the implementation vehicle for the Local Actions Non-Dam (LAND) Alternative or any components of it the Board adopts; however, any expanded program would take several years to ramp up. OCB staff and consultants plan to outline a framework for the next phase of CFAR by the end of the 21-23 biennium and will further develop the long-term program including any LAND components during the 23-25 biennium.

Key Tasks:

1. **Local and Tribal Government Support with Higher Floodplain Management Standards:** This will include several site visits, webinars/seminars to keep local officials up to date with the latest information, and coordination with jurisdictions related to flood assistance projects in their

communities. It also includes support for individual efforts as they arise; examples from the 21-23 biennium include assisting Aberdeen in joining the CRS, providing analysis to Centralia to support increasing its freeboard requirement, and helping Bucoda revise their floodway.

OCB staff and consultants will perform the work.

2. **Resident Technical Assistance:** Responding to requests for flood-related help from Chehalis Basin residents, such as through preparation of site visit reports and recommendations for flood damage reduction measures, development of flood response plans, sharing resources, and referrals. These can come in directly, from the website or through email, or they can be referred to OCB by local staff. This element also includes promotion of the CFAR program, such as new and updated publications, coordination with community-based organizations, and social media campaigns.

OCB staff and consultants will perform this work.

3. **Flood Risk Reduction Projects:** Fund floodproofing, elevation, moving, and/or clearing structures at risk of flood damage. This includes creating engineered designs for the work, providing oversight, and construction. For acquisition projects, this also includes appraisal, title search, relocation, and other due diligence activities.

At least two contracts, with an engineering consultant and with a contractor, will be required for this task. It is likely that more than one contract will be required for funding construction.

4. **Program Support and Development:** This category includes actions needed to keep the program functional. Drafting, updating, and applying criteria, coordinating with RCO, and adaptively managing the program all fall in this category.

OCB staff and consultants will do this work.

All work in the CFAR program should be funded from Flood funds.

### **Preliminary Cost Estimates**

Local government support (task 1) and resident technical assistance (task 2) are combined, because French & Associates is expected to take a lead role in both of these in the 23-25 biennium, and they do not subdivide their time this way. The estimate for these tasks includes additional funding for communication and for hydrologic modeling.

Estimates for task 3 include all engineering and construction contracting costs, as well as the 4.21% overhead RCO charges to manage these contracts.

Program support and development (task 4) includes time for Ross Strategic for general program support, including assistance developing the long-term program model and for low/medium estimates, assisting with outreach and communications.

None of these estimates include OCB staff time, which is assumed to be included in OCB core costs.

These estimates assume no reappropriation of CFAR funding.

<b>Task</b>	<b>Low</b>	<b>Medium</b>	<b>High</b>
1 & 2: Local Govt. Support & Technical Assist. for Property Owners	\$ 215,000	\$ 320,000	\$ 450,000
3: Construction Projects	\$ 1,441,100	\$ 3,421,500	\$ 5,941,300
4: Program Support and Development	\$ 118,000	\$ 203,000	\$ 279,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 1,774,100</b>	<b>\$ 3,944,500</b>	<b>\$ 6,670,300</b>

These estimates assume the following number of projects:

	<b>Low</b>	<b>Mid</b>	<b>High</b>
Floodproofing	4	8	12
Elevation	8	16	24
Purchase & Clear	0	1	3
<b>Total</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>39</b>

As a reference point, the CFAR program is supporting design and construction of 2 floodproofing projects, 10 elevation projects, and 2 potential acquire and clear projects during the 21-23 biennium; this is somewhere in between the “low” and “mid” categories in the table above. The program also has a backlog of over 10 more residential property owners that have requested financial assistance since 2020 that the Strategy has not yet been able to fund.

### **Prioritization**

The “low” category is the minimum recommended level of effort for the CFAR program in the 23-25 biennium. If an even lower level of funding is desired, the Board should eliminate direct construction projects (task 3), and focus on the other, programmatic tasks instead.

### **Contact Information**

Nat Kale, OCB