# Chehalis Basin Strategy 2017-2019 Work Plan and Budget

February 8, 2018 Chehalis Basin Board

## **Presentation Overview**

- 2017-2019 capital budget delay
- 2017-2019 Chehalis Basin Strategy budget overview
- 2017-2019 Chehalis Basin Strategy work plan updates



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#### 2017-2019 Capital Budget Delay

 Board decided to sustain path forward on major work elements through Feb 2018 by repurposing 2015-2017 carryover funds.

Now that capital budget has passed:

- Active 2015-2017 contracts will have funds re-obligated
- Other unspent, unallocated 2015-2017 funds will be used this biennium for their originally intended purpose (long-term strategy or on-the-ground projects)

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#### 2017-2019 Summary

 Major work plan elements and tasks outlined in the Governor's 2017-2019 budget recommendation are being pursued, including division of funds for advancing long-term strategy and on-theground local flood and habitat restoration projects.

- Timing for completing most major work elements is later than anticipated.
- For the 2019-2021 biennium, there will be a need to request additional funds to complete work required for the Board to develop their recommendations on a long-term strategy.

#### 2017-2019 Budget

\$60M approved by legislature consistent with Governor's proposed budget for 2017-2019 biennium:

- \$30.4 million to advance long-term strategy and determine preferred option for flood projects and habitat restoration
- \$20 million for construction of habitat restoration projects (\$10 million State, \$10 million Federal)
- \$9.6 million for construction of local flood damage reduction projects

## Advancing the Long-Term Strategy

Completion of the Aquatic Species Restoration Plan

- Permit applications to begin the project level environmental review for potential dam
- Detailed modeling and pre-permit design for Newaukum sub-basin for restorative flood protection
- Design and initial permit applications for the Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee project
- Continued improvements to land use management
- Continued public involvement and outreach to stakeholders

## **Aquatic Species Restoration**

- Completion of the Aquatic Species Restoration Plan
- Continued data collection, research, and analyses for salmonids and other aquatic species
- On-the-ground construction of high-priority projects:
  - Barrier removal
  - Floodplain and channel restoration
  - Acquisition of critical habitats

## Local Flood Reduction Projects

• Fund first tier of local flood damage reduction projects developed by the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority.

 Initiate a basin-wide floodproofing program with an early focus likely in Centralia and Thurston County, for elevation, acquisition, and other structure retrofit projects.

ewaukum River?

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#### 2017-2019 Work Plan Status

Capital budget delay impacted all 2017-2019 work-plan components:

- Delayed hiring/staffing for Office of Chehalis Basin staff, including OCB Director
- Aquatic Species Restoration Plan
- Project-level EIS for Dam/Airport Levee
- Restorative Flood Protection
- Floodplain Management/Floodproofing/Local Flood Projects
- Development of Long-Term Strategy

#### **Aquatic Species Restoration Plan**

 Input on landowner outreach strategy and allocation for early action reach projects delayed from Oct-Dec 2017 to March-June 2018

 Begin preliminary design for early action reach projects (spring 2018). Final design of early action reach projects delayed from late summer 2018 to late spring 2019

Full draft of ASRP delayed from July-Sep 2018 to late spring 2019

#### Project-level EIS for Dam

- Estimated 12-month delay for completion of Draft EIS (Jan 2020 instead of Jan 2019). Corps has not committed to schedule yet.
- Input on EIS public outreach strategy (Feb-June 2018)
- Results of scoping (late spring 2018)
- Existing 2017-2019 budget allows for completion of Draft EIS, but not Final EIS. Estimated \$2.5M in budget carried over into 2019-2021. WDFW, Ecology, QIN, Chehalis Tribe will also have additional 2019-2021 budget needs.

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#### **Restorative Flood Protection**

 Estimated 6-month delay for completion of preliminary design for RFP analyses in Newaukum sub-basin (Jan 2020 instead of June 2019).

- Input on landowner outreach strategy (Feb-June 2018).
- Board will make yes/no decision in fall 2018 on moving from conceptual to preliminary design in Newaukum sub-basin.
- Estimated \$1M in budget carried over into 2019-2021. Primarily for preliminary design work for Newaukum sub-basin.

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#### **Development of Long-term Strategy**

Input on public engagement strategy (March-June 2018)

 Decide on preliminary draft objectives, schedule and quantifiable measures for floodproofing and other work plan elements (excluding ASRP, RFP, and dam/airport levee improvements) (Jan-Mar 2019)

Approve comprehensive long-term strategy, including implementation schedule (Jul 2020-Jun 2021)

#### Local Flood Projects

Continued construction of high-priority farm pads

- Begin implementing pilot floodproofing projects in Centralia and Thurston County
- Fund first tier of local flood damage reduction projects developed by the Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority:
  - Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee design and permit apps
  - China Creek Flood and Habitat Mitigation
  - Wynoochee River WWTP
  - Thurston County Flood Study

#### Habitat Restoration Projects

Input on landowner outreach strategy (Feb-June 2018)

 Continued implementation of projects that strategically remove barriers to fish passage (March–June 2018)

 Begin preliminary design for early action reach projects (spring 2018). Construction delayed to 2019-2021 biennium.

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### **Questions/Discussion/Next Steps**

