

CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

Date: June 2, 2022
Time: 9:00 am to 2:00 pm
Location: Zoom Meeting

| ITEM | FORMAL ACTION | FOLLOW-UP ACTION |
|---|--|---|
| 1. Consent June 2, 2022 meeting agenda | Decision: Current agenda approved; May 5 meeting summary approved | No follow-up action. |
| 2. Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP) | Discussion / Direction | WDFW staff will return to a future Board meeting to discuss Early Action Reach project site visits. |
| 3. Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative (LAND) | Discussion / Direction | MIG will return to a future Board meeting to present a refined outline of the LAND framework. OCB staff will work with MIG to distribute a public survey on the LAND framework. |
| 4. 2021-23 Budget Status and Spending | Discussion / Direction / Possible Decision | WDFW will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request funding needs for ASRP projects. FCZD will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request funding needs for flood retention facility mitigation alignment analyses. Port of Grays Harbor will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request funding needs for final construction and mitigation costs for the Haul Road project. |
| 5. Community Flood Assistance & Resilience (CFAR) Program | Decision: Board approved staff recommendations on base flood elevation standard guidelines | OCB staff will return to a future Board meeting to discuss how base flood elevations could be affected by future climate change projections. |

| ITEM | FORMAL ACTION | FOLLOW-UP ACTION |
|---------------------------------------|---|--|
| | that will be used for CFAR pilot program. Decision: Board approved staff recommendations on CFAR policies related to demolishing or rebuilding structures. | |
| 6. Chehalis Basin Strategy Assessment | Direction / Possible Decision | OCB staff will work with Board Chair to finalize solicitation for Board assessment. National Policy Consensus Center & Oregon Consensus Center will return to a future Board meeting to discuss next steps on the assessment. |
| 7. Next Steps and Closing | Discussion | No follow-up action. |

Attendees

Chehalis Basin Board Members Present:

- Vickie Raines, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority (participated virtually for portion of meeting)
- Edna Fund, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- J. Vander Stoep, Office of the Governor
- Steve Malloch, Office of the Governor
- Glen Connelly, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation
- Jay Gordon, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Tyson Johnston, Quinault Indian Nation

Chehalis Basin Board Ex-Officio Members Present:

- Alex Smith, Department of Natural Resources
- Bart Gernhart, Department of Transportation
- Rich Doenges, Department of Ecology
- Michael Garrity, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Josh Giuntoli, Washington State Conservation Commission

Board Staff/Board Guests Present:

- See Attachment A

Welcome, Introductions

Chair Vickie Raines called the meeting to order at 9:14 a.m. and welcomed the Board, staff, and audience.

Consent Agenda

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [June 2, 2022 meeting agenda](#).

BOARD DECISION: Agenda approved by consensus.

Approval of May 5, 2022 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [May 5, 2022 Meeting Summary](#).

BOARD DECISION: May 5, 2022 meeting summary approved by consensus.

Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP)

Emelie McKain (WDFW) provided the Board an update on the ASRP's current and future project portfolio. During Q1 2022, the ASRP Steering Committee made a shift from planning to implementation, creating three Regional Implementation Teams (RITs) and a technical implementation team. These teams have facilitated a new funding process resulting in filling 68% of the allocated \$14.4M project portfolio with \$6.8M remaining that has not been allocated.

The RITs have received 22 total projects for consideration, sending 11 projects to the Technical Review Team to evaluate both policy and technical elements of the projects. With new project development efforts underway it has created capacity for sponsors to create new project opportunities.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [ASRP current and future project portfolio presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members are interested in understanding land ownership along the Skookumchuck River EAR.
- Board members requested further discussion in the future on how the Steering Committee is identifying, implementing, and prioritizing acquisition or conservation easement opportunities.
- Board members discussed the importance of identifying ASRP projects that provide high levels of certainty regarding their long-term effectiveness, such as conservation easements and land acquisition.

FOLLOW UP ACTION: WDFW staff will return to a future Board meeting to discuss Early Action Reach project site visits.

Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative (LAND)

Alex Dupey (MIG) provided Board members an overview of the May 16-18 Values Planning workshop, which was convened to identify core values and concepts for the LAND alternative. Nine solution categories were identified during the workshop that MIG and the LAND Steering Group will explore as

potential flood damage reduction actions, and what combinations of actions could provide the largest benefits. To supplement the work at the Values Planning workshop, MIG and the LAND Steering Group is gaining a better sense of local resident perspectives by developing an outreach strategy that includes an interactive map-based survey and a text-based survey.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [Chehalis Values Planning Board Presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members were encouraged by the engagement at the Values Planning workshop and the variety of opinions by people with different expertise.
- Board members noted that several of the solution categories identified at the Values Planning workshop have been thoroughly analyzed in the past and recommended that the LAND Steering Group consider that information when analyzing and developing alternatives.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

- MIG will return to a future Board meeting with a refined outline of the LAND framework.
- OCB staff will work with MIG to distribute a public survey on the LAND framework.

2021-23 Budget Status and Spending

CBS 2021-2023 Biennium Fund Status Update

Ken Ghalambor (Ross Strategic) provided the Board with an overview of actual spending against projected spending of 2021-2023 biennium funds for all major work elements. The Board was reminded it has authorized ~\$53M and has a reserve of \$17M. Regarding potential release of unobligated reserve funds:

- The ASRP Steering Committee requested the Board approve the release of the \$8.5M unobligated habitat restoration reserve funds available for ASRP projects. Due to habitat construction windows, ASRP projects face possible delay if some unobligated reserve funds are not released by July '22. Project delays can have impact on project success, landowner partnerships, project sponsor trust, priority acquisitions, and project development efforts.
- The Chehalis Basin Flood Control Zone District (FCZD) requested the Board approve the release of \$857K from the unobligated flood damage reduction reserve for actions regarding flood retention facility mitigation alignments to avoid direct impacts to sensitive cultural resources, minimization to fish species during construction, and the potential for significant reduction in construction time, cost, and complexity. This request is in addition to the ~\$1.35M already allocated from the flood damage reduction reserve by the OCB Director for actions regarding the mitigation alignments.
- Port of Grays Harbor and Chehalis Basin Flood Authority staff provided the Board updates on the Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road erosion project. Port of Grays Harbor continues working on permitting, refining solutions, and finding funding partners to address erosion concerns for the

project. Port of Grays Harbor is exploring permissible, constructible short-term solution(s) for the upcoming flood season while providing some protection for utilities.

At future meetings, Board members will continue to discuss when and how to release reserved funds and begin thinking about '23-25 biennium budget priorities.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [2021-23 Budget Status and Spending](#)
- [FCZD project updates](#)
- [Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road Project Presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members acknowledged the importance of additional analyses regarding flood retention facility mitigation alignments to preserve tribal cultural sites.
- Board members are interested in understanding how the mitigation alignment work will affect the timing and content of the SEPA and NEPA FEISs.
- Board members are interested in understanding what the public vs private obligations are for the Haul Road project and what the right-of-way status is within project area.
- Board members are interested in the Port of Grays Harbor returning to future a Board meeting with other identified funding partners to support the Haul Road project.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

- WDFW and ASRP Steering Committee members will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request funding needs for ASRP projects.
- FCZD will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request funding needs for flood retention facility mitigation alignment analyses.
- Port of Grays Harbor will return to a future Board meeting to discuss and request funding needs for final construction and mitigation costs for the Haul Road project.

Community Flood Assistance & Resilience (CFAR) Program

Nat Kale (OCB) reminded Board members of their previous conversation at the April 7th Board meeting, where OCB staff requested guidance from the Board for establishing policies for the CFAR program.

Provisional Policy: Base Flood Elevation (BFE) Standards

Based on the CFAR program's commitment to working cooperatively with local governments, OCB staff's recommendation is to defer to 3 feet above base flood elevation (BFE) standards when considering elevating, floodproofing, or otherwise retrofitting a structure.

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members agreed that 3ft is a reasonable standard for the pilot program.

- Board members are interested in understanding climate change modeling and assumptions related to base flood elevation levels under future conditions.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB staff will return to a future Board meeting to discuss how base flood elevations could be affected by future climate change projections.

Provisional Policy: Demolish and Rebuild Standard

In response to request for clarification from Board members, OCB staff explained situations where CFAR would contribute funds toward the cost of demolishing a floodprone building and replacing it with a new building constructed to CFAR mitigation standards.

The current CFAR policy assumption for “demolish and rebuild” would be:

1. The local permit authority considers the building to be in an unsafe or unsanitary condition that renders it uninhabitable, or
2. The cost of a flood mitigation project is worth more than the market value of the building.

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members agreed with the demolish and rebuild CFAR policy assumption.

Chehalis Basin Strategy Assessment

Board Chair Vickie Raines provided the Board an update on the status of the CBS assessment. The solicitation of interest has been drafted with support from Board members, OCB staff, and the Oregon Consensus Center. Jim Kramer introduced Peter Harkema (Oregon Consensus Center), who walked through information included in the draft solicitation and requested feedback from Board members specifically on qualifications that should be included.

The selection process will take place in two phases. The first phase includes selection of a neutral facilitator to conduct an assessment. The second phase, pending a successful assessment process, will be an opportunity for contracting to provide ongoing facilitation. Applicants must submit materials before July 8, 2022.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [DRAFT Chehalis Basin -APT- Solicitation June 1 2022](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members supported the model used by the Oregon Consensus Center when working with groups to find a new facilitator.
- Board members discussed the importance of finding a facilitator that has a proven track record of achieving successful outcomes for complex collaborative processes.

FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:

- OCB staff will work with the Board Chair to finalize the solicitation for the assessment.

- National Policy Consensus Center & Oregon Consensus Center will return to a future Board meeting to discuss next steps for the assessment.

Next Steps and Closing

Jim Kramer (Facilitator) thanked Board members for their participation and adjourned the meeting. The next Board meeting is scheduled for July 7, 2022, to be held hybrid (in-person/online). Board members and presenters are encouraged to attend in-person and public should continue participating online.

Attachment A

Board Staff/Board Guests:

- Alex Dupey, MIG
- Andrea McNamara Doyle, Department of Ecology, Director, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Arthur Grunbaum, Friends of Grays Harbor
- Brian Shay, City of Aberdeen
- Brian Stewart, Conservation Northwest
- COL Ron Averill, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Colleen Granberg, Department of Natural Resources
- Colin Swanson, Congresswoman Herrera Beutler's Office
- Cindy Bradley, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Dave Bingaman, Quinault Indian Nation, ASRP Steering Committee
- David Ortman
- Devin Reck, Washington State Department of Transportation
- Diane Butorac, Department of Ecology
- Emelie McKain, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Erik Martin, Flood Control Zone District
- Ellie Probus, Pyramid Communications
- Frank Corbin
- Hope Rieden, Department of Natural Resources
- Jess Helsley, Wild Salmon Center
- Jennifer Tice, Ross Strategic
- Jennifer Hennessey, Office of the Governor
- Jim Waldo, Flood Control Zone District
- John Hendrickson
- Jim Kramer, Kramer Consulting (Facilitator)
- Ken Ghalambor, Ross Strategic
- Larry Karpach, Watershed Science & Engineering
- Lee First, Twin Harbors Waterkeeper
- Lara McRea, Flood Control Zone District
- Mark Glyde, Quinault Indian Nation
- Matt Dillin, Flood Control Zone District
- Nat Kale, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Nick Bird, City of Aberdeen
- Nichole Czarnosmski, Department of Fish and Wildlife, ASRP Steering Committee
- Scott Boettcher, Flood Authority

- Tammy Domike
- Teri Wright, Sierra Club