

# CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

**Date:** October 6, 2022  
**Time:** 9:00 am to 2:00 pm  
**Location:** Hybrid meeting – Chehalis Basin Tribal Community Center

ITEM	FORMAL ACTION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
1. Consent October 6, 2022 meeting agenda	Decision: Current agenda approved; August 18 and September 1 meeting summaries approved.	No follow-up action.
2. Aquatic Species Habitat Restoration	Decision: The Board approved the development of an ASRP Board sub-group that includes 3-voting board members; J. Vander Stoep, Tyson Johnston, and Steve Malloch. Alternate members include Glen Connelly and Jay Gordon.	WDFW will return to a future Board meeting to present information collected for the All-H's slider tool.  OCB staff will schedule a kick-off meeting between Board members appointed to ASRP Board sub-group and ASRP Steering Committee members.
3. Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative	Discussion/ Direction	No follow-up action.
4. Update from Sam Imperati on Assessment	Discussion	Sam Imperati will return to the November Board meeting to review and discuss assessment results.
5. 2023-2025 Budget Planning	Discussion/ Direction: The Board approved OCB Director has the spending authority to allocate up to \$160K of unobligated 2019-21 or 2021-23 funds to hire a grant writer within the current biennium.	OCB Staff will continue working with the Board's Budget Sub-Group (Edna Fund, Tyson Johnston, Vickie Raines) to develop budget scenarios and recommendations for the Board's future consideration.
6. Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road Project	Discussion/ Direction	No follow-up action.
7. Next Steps and Closing	Discussion	No follow-up action.

## Attendees

### **Chehalis Basin Board Members Present:**

- Vickie Raines, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Edna Fund, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- J. Vander Stoep, 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
- Mark Gaines, Department of Transportation
- Michael Garrity, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Rich Doenges, Department of Ecology
- 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 9:08 a.m. and welcomed the Board, staff, and audience.

## Consent Agenda

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [October 6, 2022](#) meeting agenda.

**BOARD DECISION:** Agenda approved by consensus.

## Approval of August 18, 2022 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [August 18, 2022 Meeting Summary](#).

**BOARD DECISION:** August 18, 2022 meeting summary approved by consensus.

## Approval of September 1, 2022 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [September 1, 2022 Meeting Summary](#).

**BOARD DECISION:** September 1, 2022 meeting summary approved by consensus.

## Aquatic Species Habitat Restoration (ASRP)

Nat Kale (OCB) provided the Board with an introduction to the new ASRP project implementation and approval process. The goal is to provide more opportunities for qualitative review by Board members, allowing for more timely planning and ensuring there is more transparency throughout the project approval process.

Celina Abercrombie (WDFW) provided an update on the current ASRP project sponsor RFQ process and the All-H's slider tool work plan. The goal for RFQ sponsorship is to expand the eligible list for project implementation, encouraging local governments and others local entities to apply. Successful applicants will be announced just before the end of December 2022. The All-H's slider tool is being adapted for Chehalis salmon and steelhead populations and the tool will analyze factor-specific combinations (predation, hydropower, habitat, etc.) by December 2022, and will produce a final report for the Board by February 2023.

Drew Meador (WDFW) provided the Board with an update on the current 2021-23 project portfolio. Since June 2022, five new ASRP projects have been reviewed and approved totaling \$4.08M. This includes three restoration projects, one amphibian project, and one project development opportunity.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [ASRP Approval Process](#)
- [ASRP Habitat Updates](#)
- [ASRP Board updates](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members discussed their need to better understand strategic and programmatic goals for the ASRP to ensure the Board and ASRP Steering Committee are in alignment with the types of projects and activities that are funded.
- Board members expressed the need to develop an ASRP Board sub-group to allow interested Board members an opportunity to understand ASRP process and projects in greater detail, which is currently not provided during regular monthly CBB meetings.
- Chair Vickie Raines moved to appoint J. Vander Stoep, Tyson Johnston, and Steve Malloch to an ASRP sub-group, with alternate membership including Glen Connelly and Jay Gordon.
- Board members discussed how All-H's slider tool may surface issues that should be addressed through the co-manager relationship instead of through the Board.

**BOARD DECISION:** The Board approved the development of an ASRP sub-group that includes 3-voting board members; J. Vander Stoep, Tyson Johnston, and Steve Malloch. Alternate members include Glen Connelly and Jay Gordon.

**FOLLOW-UP ACTION:**

- WDFW will return to a future Board meeting to present information collected for the All-H's slider tool.

- OCB staff will work to schedule a meeting between Board members appointed to the ASRP sub-group and ASRP Steering Committee members.

## Local Actions Non-Dam Alternative (LAND)

Todd Chaput (LAND Steering Group Co-Chair) provided an overview of the September LAND Steering Group (SG) meeting, including a recap of the discussion related to the modeling results for potential infrastructure and diversion projects, the related preliminary restoration areas, and potential receiving areas for new development.

Alex Dupey (MIG) provided Board members with more detail on the diversion and conveyance concepts, noting that different alternatives can both reduce and increase water level in different areas. MIG is completing a detailed analysis using a RiverFlow2D model, which should provide more accurate results in terms of the level of benefit and potential impact of different projects. MIG is scheduling a half-day workshop on November 17, 2022, to present and receive input on a refined LAND Alternative. The LAND Steering Group is on schedule to present a preliminary recommended LAND Alternative to the Board by the end of 2022.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [LAND Presentation](#)
- [Land SG September19 Meeting Synthesis](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members are interested in receiving, as part of the final LAND alternative report, a high-level catalog that summarizes the reports, studies, and approaches that have previously been proposed for flood damage reduction and why they were or were not pursued for the LAND.

## Update from Sam Imperati on Assessment

Sam Imperati (ICM resolutions) provided the Board with an update on the status of the Chehalis Basin Strategy assessment. An assessment survey has been distributed to Board members and has set the stage for interviews. The assessment draft should be completed by the end of October.

**FOLLOW-UP ACTIONS:** Sam is scheduled to return to the November Board meeting to review and discuss the assessment results.

## 2023-2025 Budget Planning

### 2021-23 budget: Current Status and Spending

Ken Ghalambor (Ross Strategic) provided the Board with an overview of 2021-23 budget spending and progress to-date, providing a comparison of actual spending against projections to evaluate progress on work plans and deliverables.

### Other Budget Work Elements

Ken Ghalambor (Ross Strategic) and Nat Kale (OCB) previewed additional proposed 2023-2025 budget work elements that were not covered during the September 30, 2022 special Board meeting.

**OCB Core:** Core OCB and Board operations and staffing, operations, oversight, coordination, fiscal accountability, and contractor support.

**Acquisition:** Several Chehalis Basin Strategy programs (e.g., ASRP, CFAR, erosion, local actions) currently do (or plan to do) voluntary acquisitions and/or relocations. This work element focuses on the continued development of centralized acquisition services and procedures to support those existing CBS programs as well as a limited amount of budget for integrated, multi-benefit acquisition projects.

**Outreach:** This work will focus on development of and accountability to a communications plan, maintaining key existing communications channels (such as Chehalis Basin Strategy social media channels, website content, and newsletter), advising on and tracking outreach and engagement with priority audiences, and supporting the OCB, Chehalis Basin Board members, and other core partners with communications materials and talking points for their engagement with residents and other stakeholders.

**Other Integrated:**

- Grant writer - The Strategy would benefit from a person or consultancy with the expertise to put together the needs of Strategy partners with federal funding programs, and to assist in writing the grant applications to obtain funding. This would serve to more effectively leverage the money the State invests into the Chehalis Basin Strategy and expand the capabilities of both OCB and the Strategy partners.
- Initiative for Working Lands - This Initiative (IWRL) would accomplish its goals primarily by coordinating with existing agroforestry initiatives and working with local farmers and resource managers to create demonstration sites, promote adoption, and develop the tools and networks to make those agroforestry techniques succeed in a riparian context. In the context of the Chehalis Basin Strategy, wider adoption of agroforestry in riparian zones would be a powerful compliment to ASRP restorations, reduce the need for erosion management over time, improve local buy-in for restoration activities and environmental group buy-in for agricultural activities, and create economic opportunities.
- Skookumchuck genetics study - to better understand the influence of the Skookumchuck Dam on spring and fall chinook runs, WDFW and the Quinault Indian Nation (QIN) would collaborate on installing and operating a sonar device in the Skookumchuck River from mid-August through mid-October, starting in 2022 and extending for 4 years (through 2025). They would also operate fry and smolt trapping operations in the Newaukum and Skookumchuck rivers from January through May in the winters following the operation of the sonar (2023 through 2026).

## **Proposed 2023-25 Budget Summary**

The current summary of the proposed Chehalis Basin Strategy 2023-25 budget elements is between \$107M-\$153M. The Board has discussed a separate budget request for the continued work needed to complete construction of the Aberdeen-Hoquiam North Shore Levee.

<b>Funding Category</b>	<b>2021-23</b>	<b>2023-25</b>
Aquatic Species Restoration	\$30.87M	\$30.89M

Flood Damage Reduction	\$30.87M	\$59.56 - \$69.12M
Integrated	\$4.36M	\$5.33 - \$13.53M
Core OCB Staffing and Board Operations	\$3.9M	\$3.9
North Shore Levee	N/A	\$7.5 - \$35.5M
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$70M</b>	<b>\$107.18 - \$152.95M</b>

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [2023-2025 Budget Presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members proposed the use of up to \$160K of unobligated 2021-23 funds to hire a grant writer within the current biennium.
- Board members discussed the various scenarios for the 2023-25 budget request, including:
  - Increasing the overall budget above \$70M, while maintaining the balance between Flood Damage Reduction and Habitat Respiration.
  - Increasing the overall budget to \$105M, which includes an additional \$35M specific to the North Shore Levee.
  - Maintaining the current \$70M request, with an additional proviso for the \$35M needed for the North Shore Levee.
  - Maintaining a reserve within each funding category that would be held until the second half of the 2023-35 biennium.
- Board members acknowledged there is a risk to increasing the funding request to include the North Shore Levee because if the Board does not receive the higher amount, other critical Strategy activities would be less funded.
- The Board was reminded that any funds allocated to the North Shore Levee would be considered match for the BRIC grant Aberdeen-Hoquiam received from FEMA.

**BOARD DECISION:** Board approved OCB Director has the spending authority to allocate up to \$160K of unobligated 2021-23 funds to hire a grant writer within the current biennium.

## Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road Project

Scott Boettcher (Flood Authority) and Randy Raymond (Parametrix) provided the Board an update on the Port of Grays Harbor Haul Road erosion project. To date, the PoGH has completed Phase 1 design, including permitting and construction. Phase 1 has provided protection to the uppermost portion of a high, steep bank to ensure Haul Road and the surrounding utilities are protected through the 2022 flood season.

Moving into Phase 2 of this project, additional protection is needed for long-term slope stabilization using engineered wood structures in water and above water. PoGH is moving forward with Phase 2 design, permitting.

Below is the link to the presentation materials:

- [Haul Road Presentation](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- Board members continued to express concern about the location of critical infrastructure near Haul Road and are interested in the PoGH considering plans to relocate vulnerable utility infrastructure.

## Next Steps and Closing

Jim Kramer thanked Board members for their participation and adjourned the meeting. The next regular Board meeting will be November 3, 2022 as a hybrid (in-person/online) meeting.

## Attachment A

### **Board Staff/Board Guests:**

- Alex Dupey, MIG
- Alissa Shay, Port of Grays Harbor
- Alexandria Gustafson, Trout Unlimited
- Andrea McNamara Doyle, Department of Ecology, Director, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Anthony Waldrop, Grays Harbor Conservation District
- Arthur Grunbaum, Friends of Grays Harbor
- Briahna Murray, Gordon Thomas Honeywell
- Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam
- Carrie Sessions, Governor's Office
- Casey Hart, Ross Strategic
- Celest Wilder, City of Chehalis
- Celina Abercrombie, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Christa Bale, Coast Salmon Partnership
- Cindy Bradley, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Colleen Granberg, Department of Natural Resources
- Cynthia Carlstad, NHC
- Curt Hart, Department of Ecology
- David Ortman
- Diane Butorac, Department of Ecology
- Dave Bingaman, Quinault Indian Nation, ASRP Steering Committee
- Drew Mealor, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Ellie Probus, Pyramid Communications
- Erik Martin, Flood Control Zone District
- Heather Page, Anchor QEA
- Jennifer Tice, Ross Strategic
- Ken Ghalambor, Ross Strategic
- Larry Karpack, Watershed Science and Engineering
- Lauren Dennis, Ross Strategic
- Lee First, Twin Harbors Waterkeeper
- Mark Glyde, Quinault Indian Nation
- Merri Martz, Anchor QEA
- Matt Dillin, Flood Control Zone District
- Nat Kale, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Nicole Czarnomski, Department of Fish and Wildlife, ASRP Steering Committee



- Matt Szymanowicz, HDR
- Michael Kasch, HDR
- Mike Witter, HDR
- Owen Sexton, Chronicle
- Scott Boettcher, Flood Authority
- Shelby Thomas, Ross Strategic
- Ron Averill, Flood Authority
- Tammy Domike
- Tara Livingood-Schott, Chehalis Tribe
- Teri Wright, Wild Orca