

CHEHALIS BASIN BOARD SUMMARIZED MEETING AGENDA AND ACTIONS

Date: April 2, 2020
Time: 9:00 am to 12:15 pm
Location: WebEx online meeting

ITEM	FORMAL ACTION	FOLLOW-UP ACTION
1. Consent April 2, 2020 Agenda; Approval of March 5, 2020 meeting summary	Decision: Current agenda approved; March 5 meeting summary approved.	No follow-up action.
2. SEPA EIS	Discussion	OCB staff will work with Ecology staff to provide a follow-up to the Board member questions on the draft SEPA EIS findings from the April 2 Board meeting.
3. Long-Term Strategy Assessment	Discussion	No follow-up action.
4. Director's Report/Legislative Updates	Discussion/Direction	OCB staff will send a tentative calendar invite for an additional public hearing on December 2, 2020.
5. Budget Planning	Discussion/Direction	OCB staff will provide options on an approach for developing the 2021-23 budget at the May Board meeting.
6. Local Flood Damage Reduction Projects	Discussion/Direction	Flood Authority staff will present the local project solicitation process and schedule for Board approval at the May Board meeting.
7. Community Flood Assistance & Resilience (CFAR)	Discussion/Direction	No follow-up action.
8. Next Steps and Closing	Discussion	No follow-up action.

Attendees

Chehalis Basin Board Members Present:

- Vickie Raines, Chair, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Edna Fund, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority
- Glen Connelly, Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis Reservation (alternate for Chairman Harry Pickernell)
- Jay Gordon, Chehalis River Basin Flood Authority

- J. Vander Stoep, Office of the Governor
- Steve Malloch, Office of the Governor
- Tyson Johnston, Quinault Indian Nation

Chehalis Basin Board Ex-Officio Members Present:

- Bart Gernhart, Department of Transportation
- Gordon White, Department of Ecology
- Stephen Bernath, Department of Natural Resources
- Michael Garrity, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Josh Giuntoli, Conservation Commission

Board Staff/Board Guests Present on Sign-In Sheet:

- See Attachment A

Welcome, Introductions

Chair Vickie Raines called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m. and welcomed the Board, staff, and audience. Board members and attendees provided brief introductions.

Consent Agenda

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [April 2, 2020 Meeting Agenda](#).

BOARD DECISION: Agenda approved by consensus.

Approval of March 5, 2020 Meeting Summary

The Board did not have additions or revisions to the [March 5, 2020 Meeting Summary](#).

BOARD DECISION: March 5, 2020 meeting summary approved by consensus.

SEPA EIS

OCB Director McNamara Doyle provided a memo and presentation to follow up on the Board's discussion at the March 5 Board meeting about the draft SEPA EIS analysis and findings for the Chehalis Basin Flood Control Zone District's (FCZD) proposed Chehalis River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Project. The memo and presentation responded to eight clarifying questions, as well as how that information compares or relates to other analyses and findings within the Programmatic EIS and other previous studies that have been presented to the Board (or its predecessor Governor's Work Group). The questions and responses are briefly summarized below:

1. **Clearly explain the flood events used to inform the analysis and the rationale for using the selected flood events.** The FCZD's proposal is to reduce damage during major flood events (75,100 cfs or greater at Grand Mound).
2. **Summarize the potential benefits of the proposed project as compared to the No Action Alternative.** With no action, approximately 3,000 structures will flood in late-century catastrophic floods, along with six locations along I-5 and SR-6. Models show the proposed project would eliminate inundation for approximately 1,300 structures and 3,800 acres, many of which include residential areas with low-income and minority populations.
3. **Describe discrete impacts from the proposed project on salmonid populations separate from the No Action Alternative.** In late century, the project adds approximately a 10 to 15 percent

additional decline to the impacts of climate change. The project has a more significant effect in mid-century and during construction.

4. **What factors determined moderate adverse impacts of the proposed project on Southern Resident killer whales?** Southern Residents feed outside of Grays Harbor in the fall, winter, and spring. They prey on mixed salmon stocks, mostly from the Columbia River but Chehalis River stocks (they are listed by NOAA as important runs for Southern Residents). Although, the number of Chehalis chinook are relatively small compared to the need, cumulative impacts from the reduction in Chehalis salmon was used to determine moderate adverse impacts.
5. **What is the flood-related turbidity of the No Action Alternative compared to the proposed project?** Turbidity would be influenced by several factors relating to both surface runoff and in-water processes; it would vary throughout the year and depending on flood events.
6. **What are water temperature projections for the No Action Alternative compared to the proposed project?** When the flood retention facility is not storing water and the Chehalis River would pass through the facility outlets, daily maximum temperatures of the Chehalis River could increase by up to 2°C to 3°C in mid- to late-summer in the temporary reservoir footprint relative to the No Action Alternative.
7. **What are the flood-related erosion projections for the No Action Alternative compared to the proposed project?** Mass wasting, deposited sediment, and bank erosion would increase with the proposed project.
8. **How might air quality be impacted by the construction of the proposed project?** Where and when construction equipment is deployed and operated is the responsibility of the contractor. Air quality and greenhouse gas assessments relative to both SEPA and NEPA have long considered construction-related exhaust emissions as part of their analysis and determinations of significant effects on the environment.

Below are the links to the SEPS EIS materials from the Board meeting:

- [SEPA EIS Response to Board Questions Presentation](#)
- [SEPA EIS Response to Board Questions Memo](#)

Key comments and discussion topics included:

- OCB Director McNamara Doyle confirmed that analyses in the Draft SEPA EIS do not assume any mitigation.
- Board members requested more information on how the “significant” determination was made regarding impacts to salmonids (spatial structure) on slide 15 of the presentation, which stated “significant portion of steelhead and salmon in study area spawn above proposed project”
- Board members requested more information on how the spring Chinook productivity calculations were determined in the alternative scenarios in the Rainbow Falls to Crim Creek and Above Crim Creek areas on slide 16 of the presentation.

FOLLOW-UP ACTION: OCB staff will work with Ecology staff to follow-up on the Board’s questions on the draft SEPA EIS findings from the April 2 Board meeting.

Long-term Strategy Assessment

Shane Cherry (HydroGeoLogic, Inc) is a member of the Kleinschmidt Team hired by the Lewis County Flood District to develop preliminary ideas for how to mitigate the impacts of the proposed project.

Shane provided a summary of a preliminary mitigation approach for the FCZD’s proposed flood damage

reduction project. The draft SEPA EIS identifies the proposed project would have significant unavoidable impacts that will require mitigation. Major aquatic impacts of the proposed project include water quality (temperature and turbidity) and habitat loss (direct elimination, altered natural processes, and fish passage). The process to estimate the amount, types, and locations for mitigation includes describing and quantifying impacts, considering the watershed and ecological context, and the compatibility with other factors (e.g., ASRP).

Shane emphasized the consultant team is not yet developing a mitigation plan, since that will be required only if the proposed project advances and applies for permits. At this point, the team is evaluating the potential for mitigation of the major impacts identified in the SEPA EIS, and the order of magnitude of mitigation actions needed both on-site and off-site of the project impact area. So far their team has found over 300 potential sites that could support one or more mitigation actions such as riparian buffer expansion, cool water refugia enhancements, fish passage, or wetland enhancement. Climate change will affect mitigation actions; adaptive management and durable mitigation would be needed. The biggest challenge will be addressing the increase in water temperature. They are looking at innovative approaches for infusing surface water into the groundwater that can have a cooling effect and create cool water refugia. The next steps are to continue an ongoing mitigation opportunities assessment and prepare a mitigation opportunities report by mid-summer.

Below is a link to the presentation on the preliminary mitigation approach:

- [Preliminary Mitigation Approach Memo](#)

Legislative Update/Director's Report

OCB Director McNamara Doyle provided her Director's report and updates on Legislative bills that affect OCB and CBB, including:

- SHB1154: Concerning the financing of Chehalis Basin flood damage reduction and habitat restoration projects, is on the list to be signed by the Governor. The final House and Senate negotiated amendment language creates a new taxable bond account but does not include any authorization for the sale of bonds at this point. It also directs OCB to develop project lists with certain requirements and submit a report to the legislature by January 1, 2021 with a finalized strategic plan and implementation schedule.
- HB2109: Concerning membership of the Chehalis Basin Board, was signed by the Governor and takes effect June 11, 2020. OCB Director McNamara Doyle recommended potentially allocating time on the May Board meeting agenda to discuss the process for tribes naming alternate members so it can be memorialized in the Board Handbook.
- The new Department of Ecology Director, Laura Watson, is interested in attending a future Chehalis Basin Board meeting to introduce herself and learn more from the Board about its work.
- OCB is adjusting to the new COVID-19 related remote work requirements and continuing to adapt as necessary. OCB will keep the Board apprised of any changes in schedule or meetings as necessary.
- As discussed at the March Board meeting, the Board asked OCB staff to recommend new dates for a Board workshop and public hearing(s) on the long-term strategy. OCB Director McNamara Doyle reviewed the recommendations for adding a workshop before the December Board meeting and moving the public hearings to mid-November. Board members requested OCB staff

keep the existing workshop date scheduled for September 30 and tentatively schedule an additional public hearing on December 2, 2020.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS: OCB staff will send a tentative calendar invite for an additional public hearing on December 2, 2020.

Below are the links to the Legislative Update/Director's Report handouts:

- [Legislative Update/Director's Report Presentation](#)
- [OCB Revised Long-Term Strategy Assessment Schedule Memo](#)

Budget Updates

2019-2021 Budget Updates

OCB Director McNamara Doyle provided an update on the current status of the 2019-21 biennial budget and Chehalis Basin Strategy related provisos in the 2020 supplemental budget. Board members were supportive of using the same format and level of detail for future budget status updates.

OCB Director McNamara Doyle summarized two provisos in the 2020 supplemental budget that were not part of the original 2019-21 Board recommended budget:

- \$250,000 for an independent 3rd party evaluation to assess the financial impacts on landowners whose property could become the site of the flood retention structure and temporary reservoir project, including, but not limited to, timber valuation, construction of alternative transportation networks, and lost timber production associated with the project.
- \$450,000 for a state match for equal funding from the OCB for the Lower Satsop Restoration and Protection Program Keys Road Protection Project. OCB Director McNamara Doyle noted that the 2020 supplemental budget has not been signed, but when it does if the Lower Satsop proviso move forwards the Board will need to reallocate \$450,000 to match what is in the request, e.g., by redirecting unobligated ASRP implementation funding.

2021-2023 Budget Planning Approach

OCB Director McNamara Doyle provided the Board preliminary considerations on an approach for developing the 2021-23 budget. She also reviewed the new requirements in SHB 1154, which state that OCB should submit agency decision packages in preparation for the 2021-23 capital budget containing:

- A specific list of projects
- Project costs and suggested fund sources
- Location information
- A timeframe, including initiation and completion

Board members were asked to consider whether they would like to continue using the same overarching budget categories (Advancing Long-Term Strategy and On-the-Ground Projects) moving forward, or if they see value in choosing new budget categories that emphasize integrated actions with both aquatic species habitat and flood damage reduction benefits, next biennium or in the longer-term.

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS: OCB staff will provide options on an approach for developing the 2021-23 budget at the May Board meeting.

Below are the links to the budget update handouts:

- [CBS 2019-21 Budget Summary](#)
- [CBS Budget Update Presentation](#)

Local Flood Damage Reduction Projects

Scott Boettcher (Flood Authority Staff) presented the draft local flood damage reduction project solicitation process and schedule. The Flood Authority will make a decision on the draft 2021-23 local project solicitation package at its April 16th meeting and Scott will present that solicitation package to the Board for approval at its May meeting.

Below are links to the Local Flood Damage Reduction Projects handouts:

- [Local Flood Damage Reduction Projects Presentation](#)
- [Local Flood Damage Reduction Projects Solicitation Timeline and Process](#)

FOLLOW UP ACTIONS: Scott Boettcher (Flood Authority staff) will present the local project solicitation process and schedule for Board approval at the May Board meeting.

Community Flood Assistance & Resilience Program (CFAR)

Chrissy Bailey (OCB) provided an update on the CFAR program, including the draft CFAR project solicitation approach. The spring 2020 CFAR project solicitation will include requests for:

- Technical support for communities:
 - Ongoing
 - Inquiries fielded by OCB, addressed with appropriate technical advisor in coordination with requesting community.
- Technical assistance for landowners:
 - Advice (ongoing) - Inquiries fielded by OCB, addressed with appropriate technical advisor
 - Project development – landowners submit a letter of interest to request assistance. Tier I applications will be prioritized, which will be due on or around August 30, 2020

The spring 2020 solicitation will position the CFAR program for 2021 implementation via:

- Supported communities better positioned for future project funds
- Assisted landowners have proposed projects for ranking, projects receiving funding can begin design & permitting in winter 2020.
- Framework tested through interim technical support and early opportunity retrofit projects
- Better understanding of channel migration/erosion risks and priorities

Below is the link to the CFAR presentation:

- [CFAR Presentation](#)

Next Steps and Closing

The next Board meeting is scheduled for May 7, 2020 as an online webinar.

Attachment A

Board Staff/Board Guests on Sign-In Sheet:

- Andrea McNamara Doyle, Department of Ecology, Director, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Anthony Waldrop, Grays Harbor Conservation District
- Arthur Grunbaum, Friends of Grays Harbor
- Barbara Cairns, Pyramid Communications
- Betsy Dillin, Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District
- Bob Thomas, Army Corps of Engineers
- Brandon Clinton, Army Corps of Engineers
- Brian Shay, City of Hoquiam
- Brian Stewart, Conservation Northwest
- Casey Kramer, NHC
- Celina Abercrombie, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Chase Gunnell, Conservation Northwest
- Chip McConnaha, Independent Fisheries Ecologist
- Chris Davis, Washington State Governor's Office
- Chrissy Bailey, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Cindy Bradley, Department of Ecology, Office of Chehalis Basin
- Cindy Hansen, Orca Network
- Colleen Granberg, Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Curt Hart, Department of Ecology
- Cynthia Carlstad, NHC
- Dave Bingaman, Quinault Indian Nation, ASRP Steering Committee
- Diane Butorac, Department of Ecology
- Dias As
- Don Schluter
- Emelie McKain, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Erik Martin, Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District
- Guillaume Mauger, University of Washington
- Heather Page, Anchor QEA
- Hope Rieden, Chehalis Tribe
- Izabella Zucker, Pyramid Communications
- James Philip
- Jim Kramer, Kramer Consulting (Facilitator)
- Jim Waldo, Consultant to Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District
- John Ferguson, Anchor QEA
- John Gaffney, InterFluve
- John Robinson, Consultant to Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District
- Joy Michaud, Herrera
- Julie Tyson, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Karen Allston, Quinault Indian Nation

- Keith Douville, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Ken Ghalambor, Ross Strategic
- Kirsten Harma, Chehalis Basin Lead Entity
- Kris Koski, City of Aberdeen
- Lee First, Twin Harbors Water Keepers
- Lisa Kean
- Lisa Riner
- Lizbeth Seebacher
- Luciano Torres
- Luke Kelly, Trout Unlimited
- Mara Zimmerman, Coast Salmon Partnership
- Mark Glyde, Consultant to Quinault Indian Nation
- Nicole Czarnomski, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, ASRP Steering Committee
- Phyllis Farrell
- Ramires Pereira
- Reinaldo Card
- Ron Averill, Lewis County Farm Bureau
- Scotty Ireland, Parametrix
- Shane Anderson, Pacific Rivers
- Shane Cherry, Cherry Creek Environmental
- Shelby Thomas, Ross Strategic
- Sophia Ressler, Center for Biological Diversity
- Tammy Domike
- Thomasina Cooper, Thurston County
- Walter Pizzin