

# Washington Department of Ecology Seeks Public Comment on Draft Environmental Impact Statement

## Proposed Chehalis River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Project

The Chehalis River Basin Flood Control Zone District (the Applicant) is proposing a project to reduce flood damage in the Chehalis-Centralia area by:

- Constructing a flood retention facility and associated temporary reservoir near Pe Ell, Washington, on the Chehalis River intended to reduce peak flood levels during a major flood or larger, from floods originating in the Willapa Hills
- Making changes to the Chehalis-Centralia Airport levee to reduce flood damage from a catastrophic flood

The Draft Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) identifies and analyzes how the proposed project is likely to affect the environment. Ecology has prepared this Draft EIS using the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requirements in the Washington Administrative Code 197-11.

The SEPA EIS provides information about the probable, significant, adverse, environmental impacts of the proposal. It does not approve or deny the proposed project. The Chehalis Basin Board will use the information in the SEPA EIS, along with other information, to inform their recommendations for the long-term Chehalis Basin Strategy. Local and state agencies will also use the SEPA EIS as part of any future permitting decisions related to the project.

**There are multiple ways to submit comments. All comments will be considered equally, regardless of how they are submitted.**

- **IN PERSON:** Attend a public hearing
- **ONLINE:** [chehalisbasinstrategy.com/eis/comment-form](https://chehalisbasinstrategy.com/eis/comment-form)
- **MAIL:** SEPA Draft EIS for the Proposed Chehalis Flood Damage Reduction Project  
c/o Anchor QEA, LLC  
1201 3rd Avenue, Suite 2600  
Seattle, WA 98101

### **TIMING:**

The public comment period is **February 27 through April 27, 2020.**

## PUBLIC HEARINGS WILL BE HELD ON MARCH 31 AND APRIL 2, 2020

The purpose of the public hearings is to receive public comment on the SEPA Draft EIS. There will be two public hearings, one each in the lower and upper Chehalis Basin. These will have information about the environmental review and people can provide comments in-person.

## MEETING LOCATIONS AND FORMAT

### **Tuesday, March 31**

Centralia College – TransAlta Commons  
600 Centralia College Boulevard  
Centralia, WA 98531

### **Thursday, April 2**

Montesano Jr. Sr. High School – Commons Room  
303 Church Street North  
Montesano, WA 98563

- ▶ Open house from 5:00 p.m. to 8:30 p.m.
- ▶ Short presentation at 5:30 p.m.
- ▶ Oral comments received from 6:00 p.m. through 8:30 p.m.

All of the information provided at the public hearings will also be available for viewing online at [www.chehalisbasinstrategy.com/eis](https://www.chehalisbasinstrategy.com/eis).

## EQUAL ACCESS

To request ADA accommodation, including materials in a format for the visually impaired, call 360-407-7668 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341. All meeting-related requests must be received 72 hours in advance; please call 206-903-3331.