

Quinault Indian Nation

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August 2, 2021

Vickie Raines, Chair Chehalis Basin Board

By email: <u>VRaines a co.grays-harbor.wa.us</u>

Dear Chairwoman Raines,

On behalf of the Quinault Indian Nation (QIN), I offer my appreciation for your leadership in helping QIN get answers to our questions about proposed budget items of concern related to the proposed flood retention facility.

Following our productive engagement and discussion with representatives from the Flood Control Zone District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, and Department of Ecology on July 22, we received clarifications and updated descriptions of budget items of concern from Andrea McNamara Doyle, Director of the Office of the Chehalis Basin in a memo dated July 26, and a separate memo, dated July 27, from Erik Martin, Administrator for the Flood Control Zone District (FCZD).

After reviewing the abovementioned memos, we can confirm that most of our concerns have been addressed and we can now approve most of the budget items of concern we identified following the July 1 Chehalis Basin Board meeting.

The concerns we raised previously in May, about budget items pointed out in Andrea's July 26 memo, were addressed to the Nation's satisfaction by the additional information shared since that time.

While there are still a few outstanding issues to resolve, we are optimistic the QIN can approve the \$70 million budget to further the Chehalis Basin Strategy over the upcoming 2021-2023 biennium.

Remaining issues include:

1) Budget item 53, Project and Contract Management (formerly titled "Engineering and Permitting")

Per the email from Erik Martin dated July 29, 2021, the FCZD agreed to reduce this amount to \$300,000 for the first year with the remaining \$300,000 in reserve for consideration for the second year of the biennium. The QIN can only support a \$300,000 budget item for Contract Management if the FCZD can confirm none of these funds will support permit application development or engineering for the flood retention facility.

2) Budget item 70, Implement Hyporheic Exchange Enhancement Demonstration

The QIN cannot support including this in the FCZD budget for work needed to complete the EISs, as results would not be available to inform the EISs. We recommend this project be considered by the Science Review Team of the ASRP for its scientific merit.

Sincerely,

Guy Capoeman, President Quinault Indian Nation

cc: Andrea McNamara Doyle, Manager, OCB

Erik Martin, Administrator, FCZD