

MEMORANDUM

Date: July 26, 2021
To: Tyson Johnston, Policy Representative, Quinault Indian Nation
From: Andrea McNamara Doyle, OCB Director

cc: Vickie Raines, Chehalis Basin Board Chair
Dave Bingaman, Karen Allston, Mark Glyde, participants from Quinault Indian Nation
Erik Martin, Betsy Dillin, Lara McRae, Jim Waldo, Shane Cherry, participants from Flood Control Zone District
Rich Doenges, Diane Butorac, Tom Young, participants from Ecology
Evan Carnes, US Army Corps of Engineers
Re: Follow up information from OCB re: July 22, 2021 meeting between QIN, FCZD, ECY, USACE

Thank you again for scheduling the meeting held on July 22 for the Quinault Indian Nation to discuss the Nation's concerns with items suggested to be funded under the Chehalis Basin Strategy's 2021-2023 biennial budget. At the conclusion of the call, I committed to providing additional information in response to questions posed to OCB by your team during the discussion and in the "meeting guide" Dave Bingaman distributed before the meeting. Erik Martin from the FCZD also committed to providing additional follow-up information from the District. This memorandum includes OCB's additional information concerning questions posed to OCB.

Item 54 – Preliminary Engineering Fish Passage

During the discussion on July 22, your team members asked for clarification on Item 54, particularly whether WDFW would be doing engineering work on fish passage facilities for the proposed flood retention facility. I shared that, based on information WDFW staff had previously provided to Ecology, Item 54 in the proposed OCB budget is for funding to be provided to WDFW to engage with the FCZD in responding to WDFW's December 20 comment letter about mitigation opportunities related to fish impacts, and not for WDFW to develop engineering designs. I also clarified that the proposed OCB budgets presented at the June 3 and July 1 Board meetings included \$83,000 for WDFW related to this line item, not \$106,461 (incorporating WDFW's mid-range rather than high-end cost estimate).

WDFW staff has also stated that this mid-range cost estimate of \$83,000 would support a WDFW habitat biologist and engineer to review designs provided by the FCZD related to meeting state fish passage standards.

Questions from Meeting Guide

The meeting guide distributed by Dave Bingaman before the July 22 meeting included some questions we did not have time to discuss during the call. Your team asked for written responses to these introductory questions as part of OCB's and the FCZD's follow up.

The Nation asked:

Q: There are new items (#s 1, 2, 4, 5, and 18) included in the memo in the District's explanations (beginning on page 10 of the June 22 memo to the Board) that were not apparently in the original budget. Why were they included in the June 22 memo? How do they factor into the overall budget since no dollar amounts were assigned to these items?

OCB response:

A: Items 1, 2, 4, 5, and 18 are not "new" items in the OCB budget – they refer to items identified by Ecology as topics for further analysis in the SEPA FEIS. From OCB's perspective, these items factor into the overall OCB budget because they informed the budget estimates provided by Ecology, WDFW, and DNR for staff engagement and consultant support for completing the final SEPA and NEPA EISs (see lines 25-32 of budget spreadsheet provided to QIN on May 28). They also relate to the budget estimates provided to OCB by the FCZD for completing work the District intends to submit to the agencies for consideration as part of the Final EISs.

Other Budget Item Descriptions

FCZD Budget Items

The remainder of the budget items discussed at the July 22 meeting relate to funding requests from the FCZD to OCB. The District is separately providing clarifications of the descriptions of work to be performed by the FCZD and its consultants under each of those budget items.

OCB Questions

At the conclusion of the call on July 22, you indicated the Nation would provide responses to the three questions I had emailed before the meeting that we did not have time to discuss (regarding budget items 62 & 64; 52; and 43, 45, 58). Please let me know if you need further clarification on my questions.

I concur with the Nation's view that time is of the essence – for resolving the Chehalis Basin Board's current budget impasse and for continuing the Strategy's efforts to make the basin more resilient to the increasingly devastating effects of climate change. I look forward to hearing as soon as possible when you may be able to share a budget proposal that would be acceptable to the Nation so Chair Raines and I can prepare for the next meeting of the Chehalis Basin Board at the earliest opportunity.