

Connor Creek Flooding

Community Meeting

Ocean Shores Outdoor Recreation Club

January 18, 2024 -- 6:00 PM



← 12-05-2023



12-06-2023 →



SBGH-Partners

Today's Presentation

- A. Provide update on activities since last meeting (9-28-2023).
- B. Discuss/set next steps.
- C. Leave you with additional resources.

Link to this presentation:

[Connor Creek Community Meeting 1-18-2024](#)

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SBGH-Partners

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A. Activities Since Last Meeting

1. Held conversations with many people.
2. Collected and reviewed much information.
3. Generated a list of ideas/possible solutions.

Problem . . .

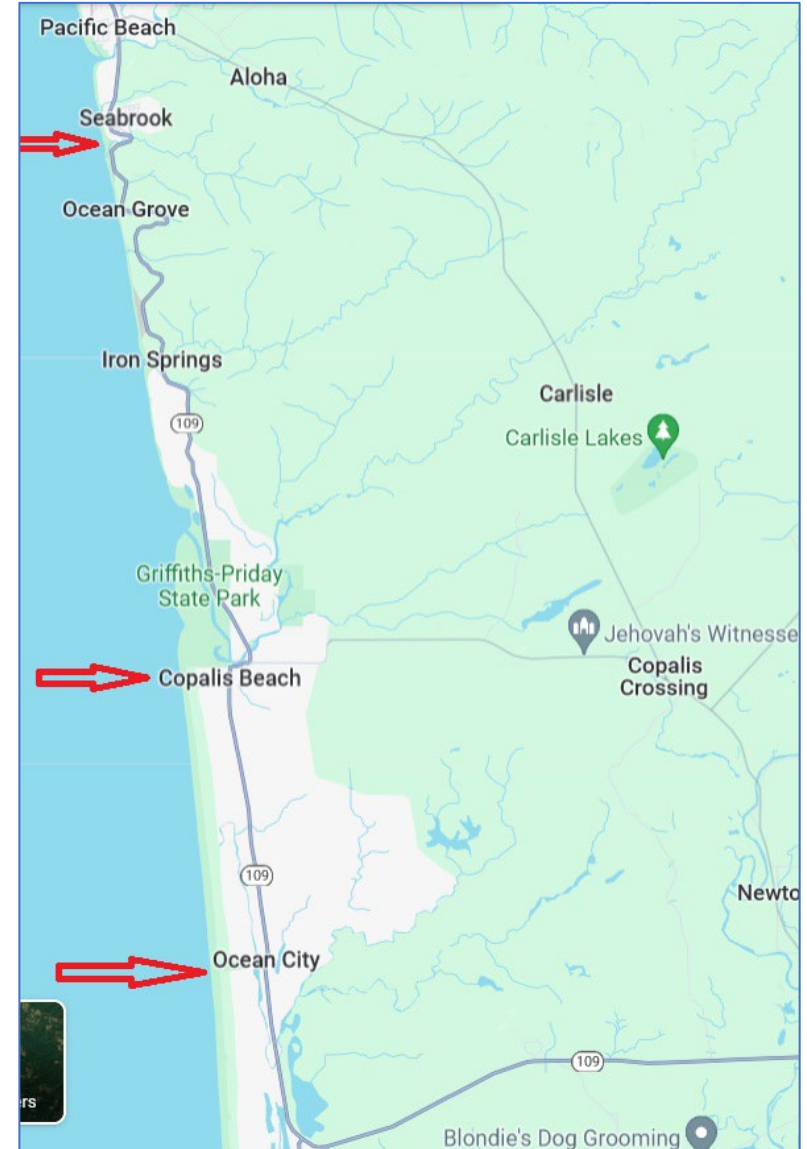
“Connor Creek presents a chronic, complex, and historically unaddressed flooding problem adversely affecting North Beach residents, visitors, businesses, and emergency responders alike.”



1. Conversations

Major themes/topics from 17 meetings.

- ✓ **Drainage/Conveyance**
- ✓ **Emergency Response**
- ✓ **Infrastructure**
- ✓ **SR109**
- ✓ **Past Planning/Studies**
- ✓ **North Beach Future**
- ✓ **Documentation**



2. Information

Collected and reviewed much information.

- ✓ **Flooding**
- ✓ **Plans/Studies**
- ✓ **Mapping**
- ✓ **Photo/Drone/Imagery**
- ✓ **Other Documentation**



Grays Harbor County Utilities Department
Water Well, 1-07-2022



2. Information (Flooding)

1. Five “King Tide” events (10.4 ft and greater) since last community meeting (9/28/2023).
2. Two additional “Tides of Concern” events (9.5 ft and greater).
3. Seven events totalling 75 out of 121 days (62% of those days)!
4. 8% of all tides annually are 9.5 ft and greater (Westport Station).



12-27-2022 →

NOAA High/Low Tides			
Year	9.5 ft. and Greater	Total Records	%
2022	112	1410	8%
2023	128	1411	9%
2024	114	1414	8%
2025	108	1411	8%
2026	116	1410	8%
	578	7056	8%

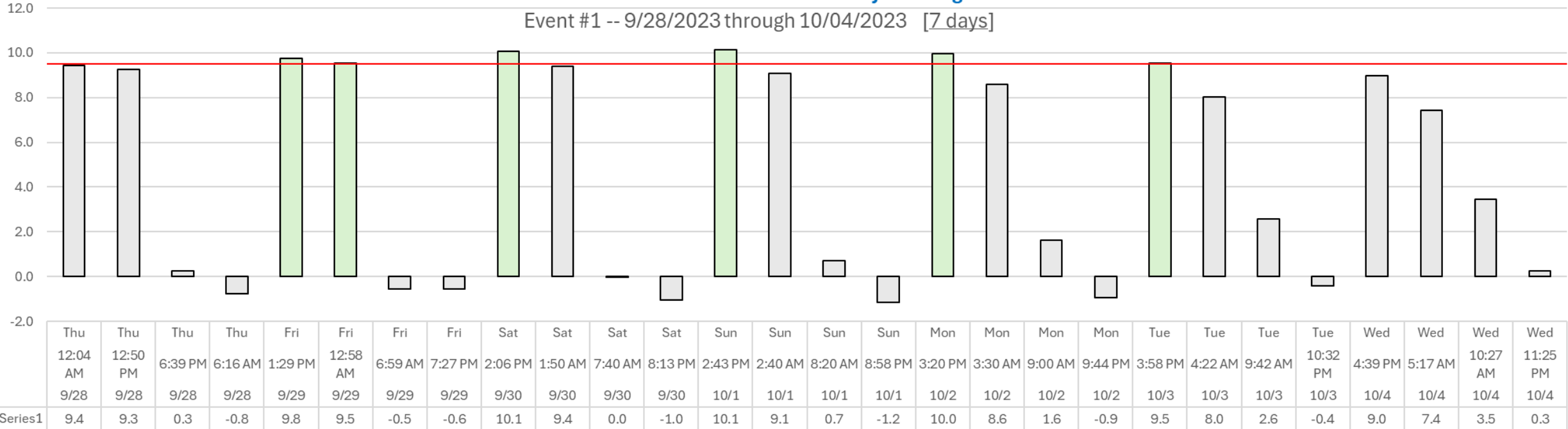


2. Information (Flooding)

Event #1

9.5 Ft. Tides Since Last Community Meeting

Event #1 -- 9/28/2023 through 10/04/2023 [7 days]

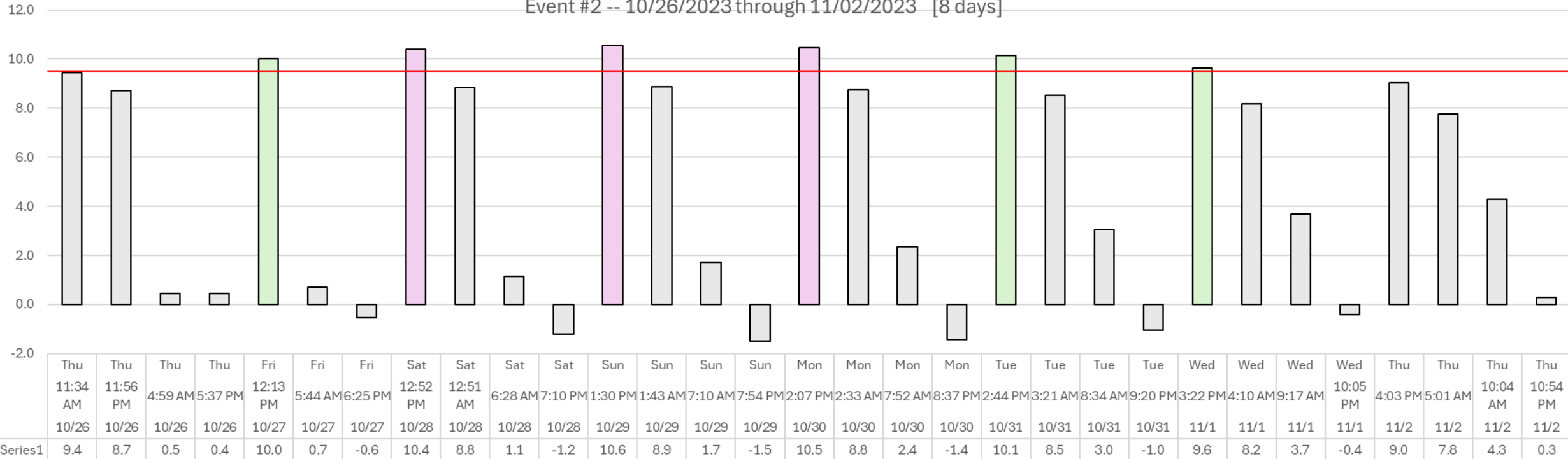


2. Information (Flooding)

Event #2

9.5 Ft. Tides and King Tides Since Last Community Meeting

Event #2 -- 10/26/2023 through 11/02/2023 [8 days]

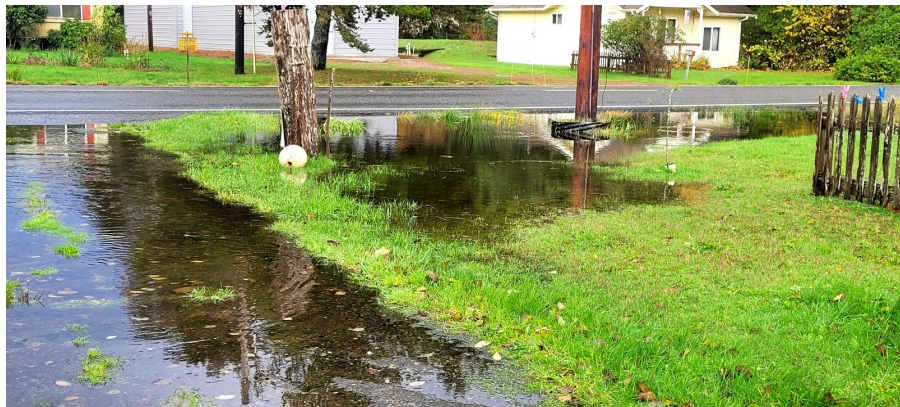
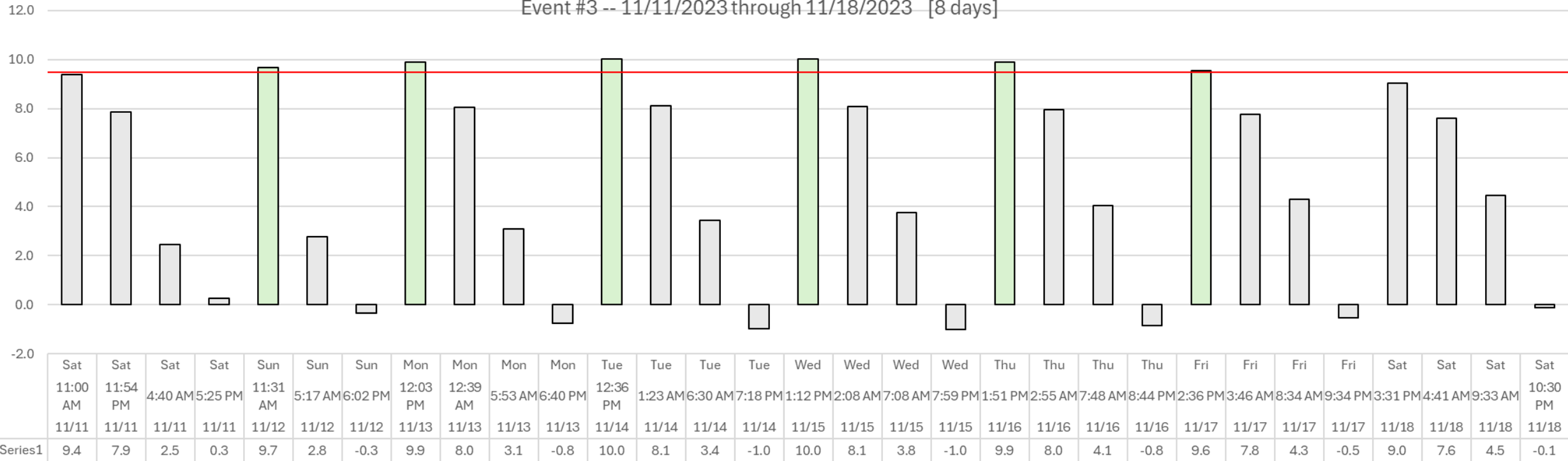


2. Information (Flooding)

Event #3

9.5 Ft. Tides Since Last Community Meeting

Event #3 -- 11/11/2023 through 11/18/2023 [8 days]



11-11-2023 →

← 11-16-2023

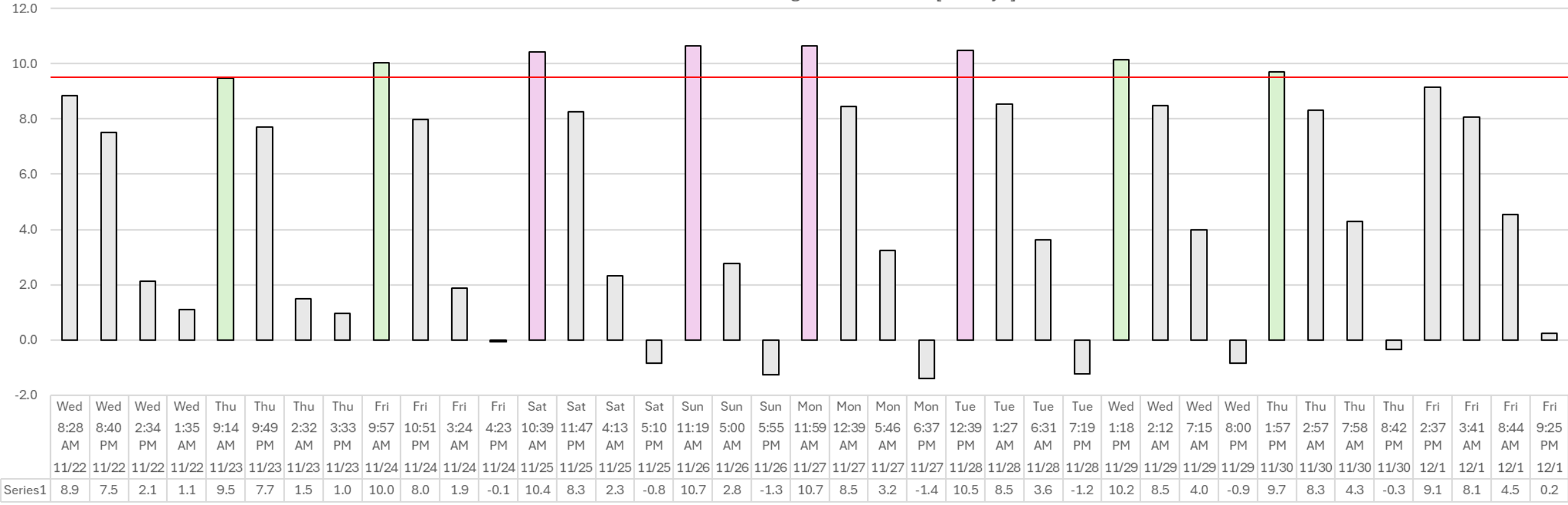


2. Information (Flooding)

Event #4

9.5 Ft. Tides and King Tides Since Last Community Meeting

Event #4 -- 11/22/2023 through 12/01/2023 [10 days]



12-05-2023 →



← 12-06-2023 →

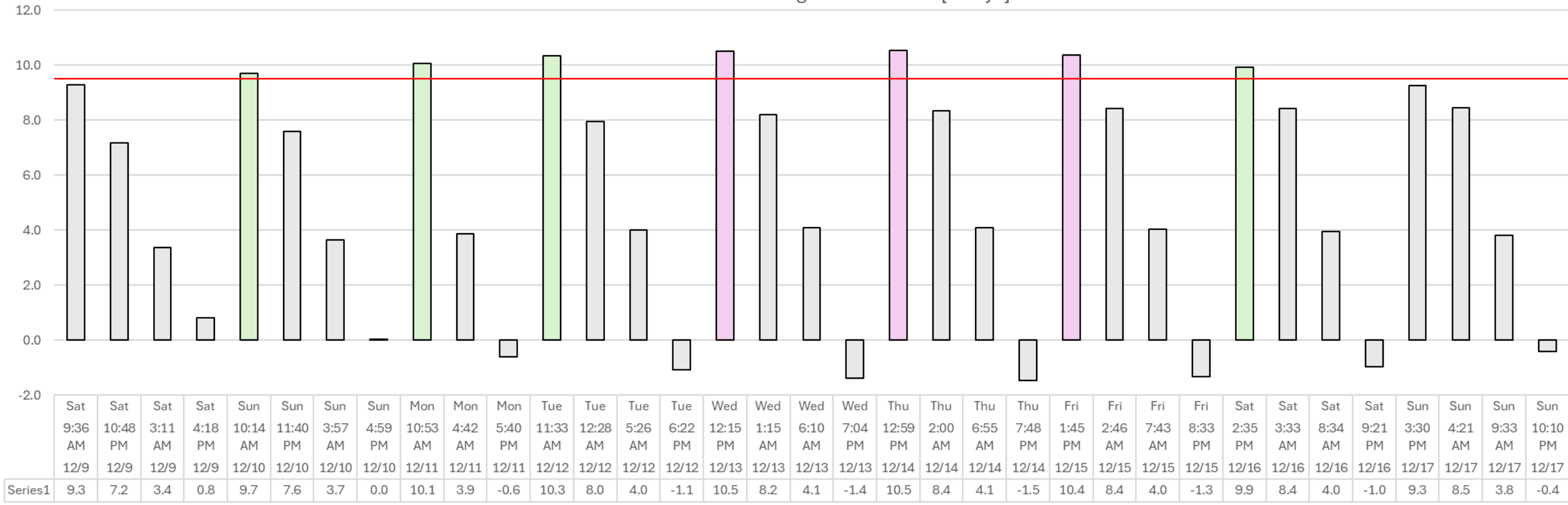


2. Information (Flooding)

Event #5

9.5 Ft. Tides and King Tides Since Last Community Meeting

Event #5 -- 12/09/2023 through 12/17/2023 [9 days]



← 12-10-2023 →

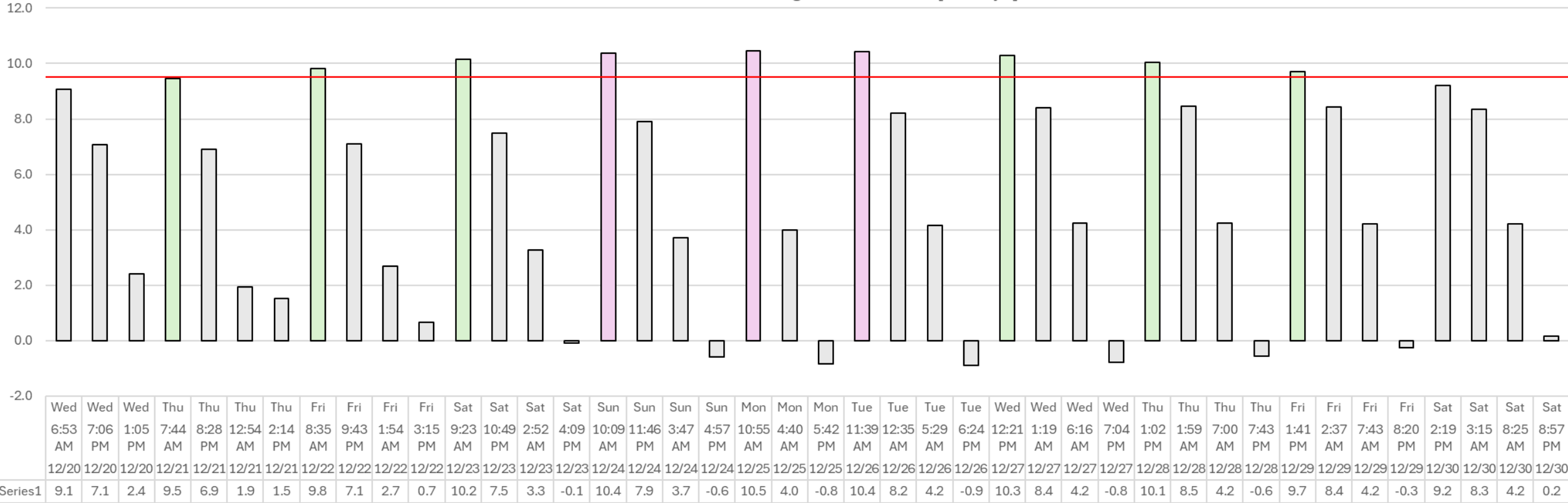


2. Information (Flooding)

Event #6

9.5 Ft. Tides and King Tides Since Last Community Meeting

Event #6 -- 12/20/2023 through 12/30/2023 [11 days]



2. Information (Flooding)



← 1-03-2021



1-07-2022 →



12-28-2022 →



← 1-05-2021



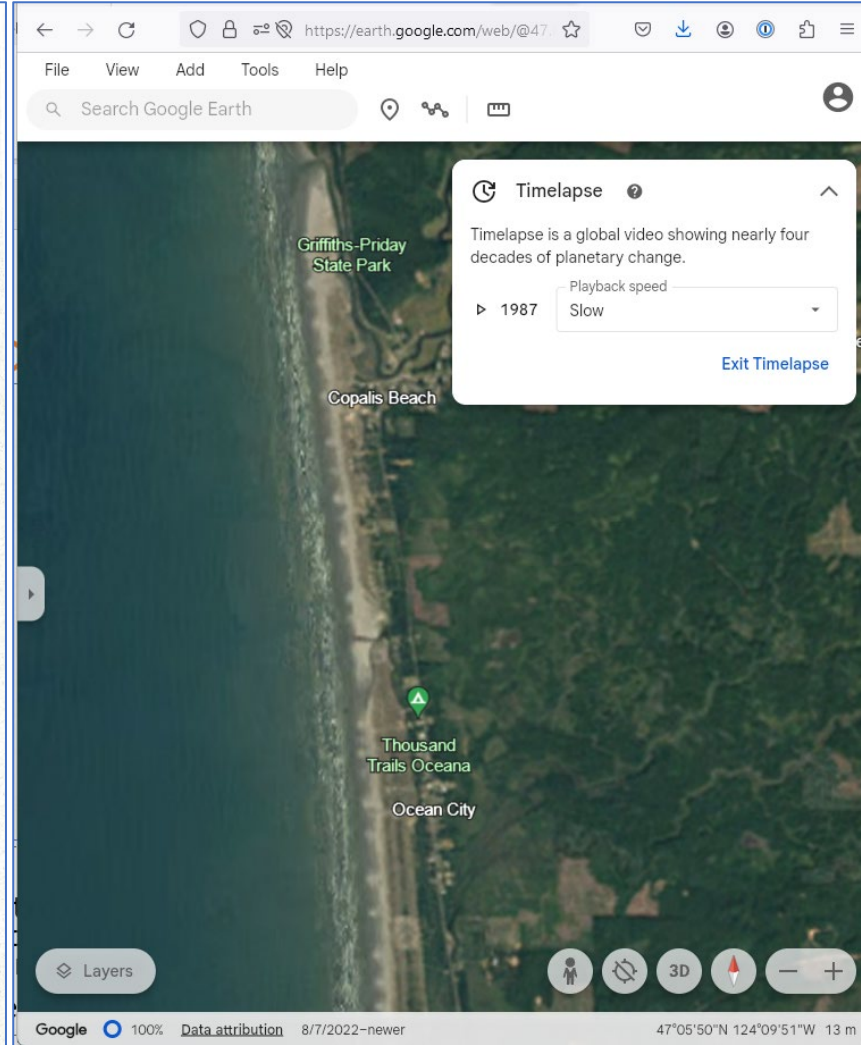
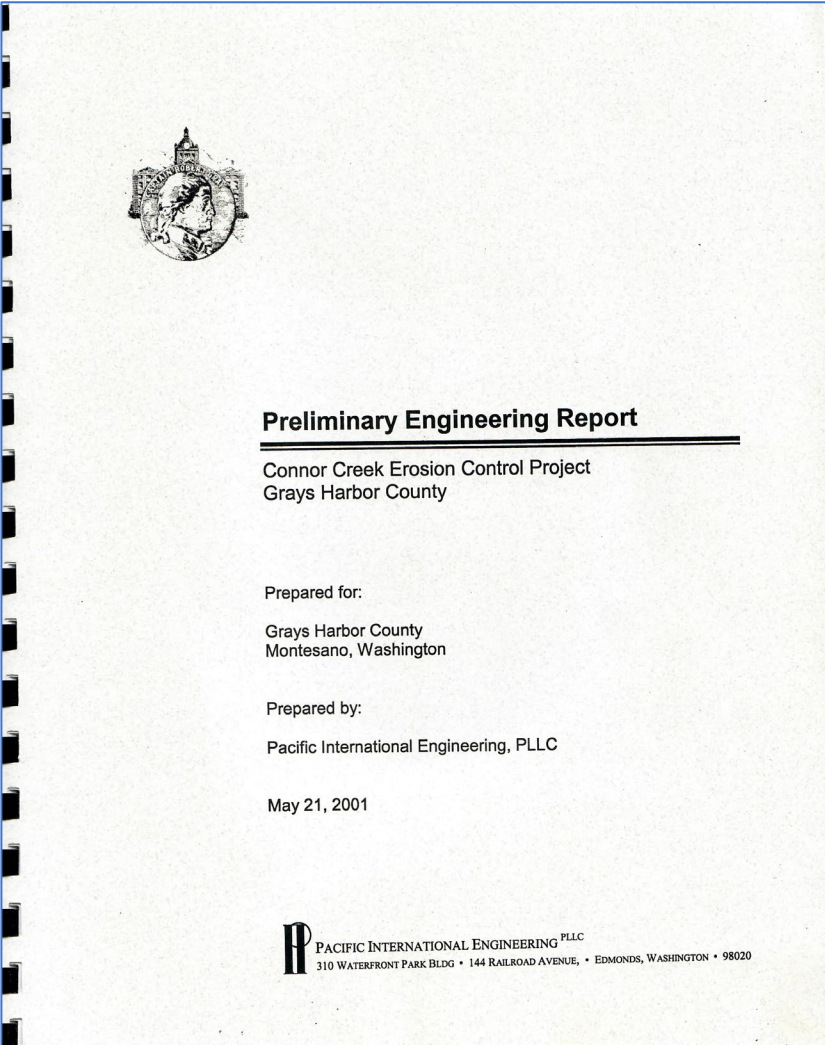
1-07-2022 →



1-13-2023 →



2. Information (Plans/Studies)



1. Issued May 2001.
2. Evaluated 9 alternatives to control migration of Connor Creek mouth.
3. Recommended “Composite Migration Corridor” (alt. 6) to install sand filled geotextile containers to contain mouth to 1987 location (Chabot Rd).
4. Alternative not implemented.
5. Did not address chronic flooding.

Activate Timelapse [here](#) or [here](#).



2. Information (Plans/Studies)

The
HIDDEN COAST
Scenic Byway



Corridor Management Plan



1. Issued June 2011 (see [here](#)).
2. Sets usage and travel vision for Hoquiam to Tahola.
3. Did not address chronic flooding.



The Hidden Coast Scenic Byway (SR 109) connects the city of Hoquiam to Taholah, the main community of the Quinault Indian Nation. It provides access to the City of Ocean Shores, one of Washington States most popular travel destinations, and to the communities of the North Beach area, which offer a variety of lodging, recreation, and tourism activities.

CORRIDOR MANAGEMENT PLAN PURPOSE & OVERVIEW

The Hidden Coast Scenic Byway (SR 109) is one of the best ways to access the Pacific Coast in Washington State. Beginning in historic Hoquiam and extending past the rich mud flats of Grays Harbor, the popular tourism destination of Ocean Shores, the charming beach communities of the North Beach area, and the regional center of the Quinault Indian Nation, the byway offers visitors opportunities to enjoy the region's natural and historic heritage.

The Corridor Management Plan for the byway is intended to document opportunities to enhance the byway as a visitor destination.

The planning process included consideration of the roadway and transportation systems, access to recreation, visitor services, community development priorities, and the region's tourism economy. Developed with extensive involvement from corridor stakeholders, the plan for the byway is a roadmap to future improvements and management opportunities.

HIDDEN COAST
SCENIC BYWAY

The plan is not intended to replace traditional transportation improvement, local land use, or economic development plans. Instead the plan complements those efforts with a **focus on recreational travel in the SR 109 corridor.** The Corridor Management Plan is also not a regulatory document. Participation in the Washington State or National Scenic Byways programs has no impact on private property or the ability of local or tribal governments to regulate land use. In some cases a byway plan might recommend a project that requires purchase of private property (for example to develop access to a recreation site or develop a new viewpoint.) These projects are intended to be implemented with the cooperation of a willing seller.

The plan is intended to benefit local communities by:

- Documenting a shared vision and goals for the corridor
- Identifying potential enhancements to the byway for future development

THE HIDDEN COAST SCENIC BYWAY Corridor Management Plan

3



2. Information (Plans/Studies)

North Beach Flood Hazard Management Plan

Prepared for

**Grays Harbor County
Board of Commissioners**

Funded in Part by a Washington State
Department of Ecology FCAAP Grant



June 1999

VOLUME TWO

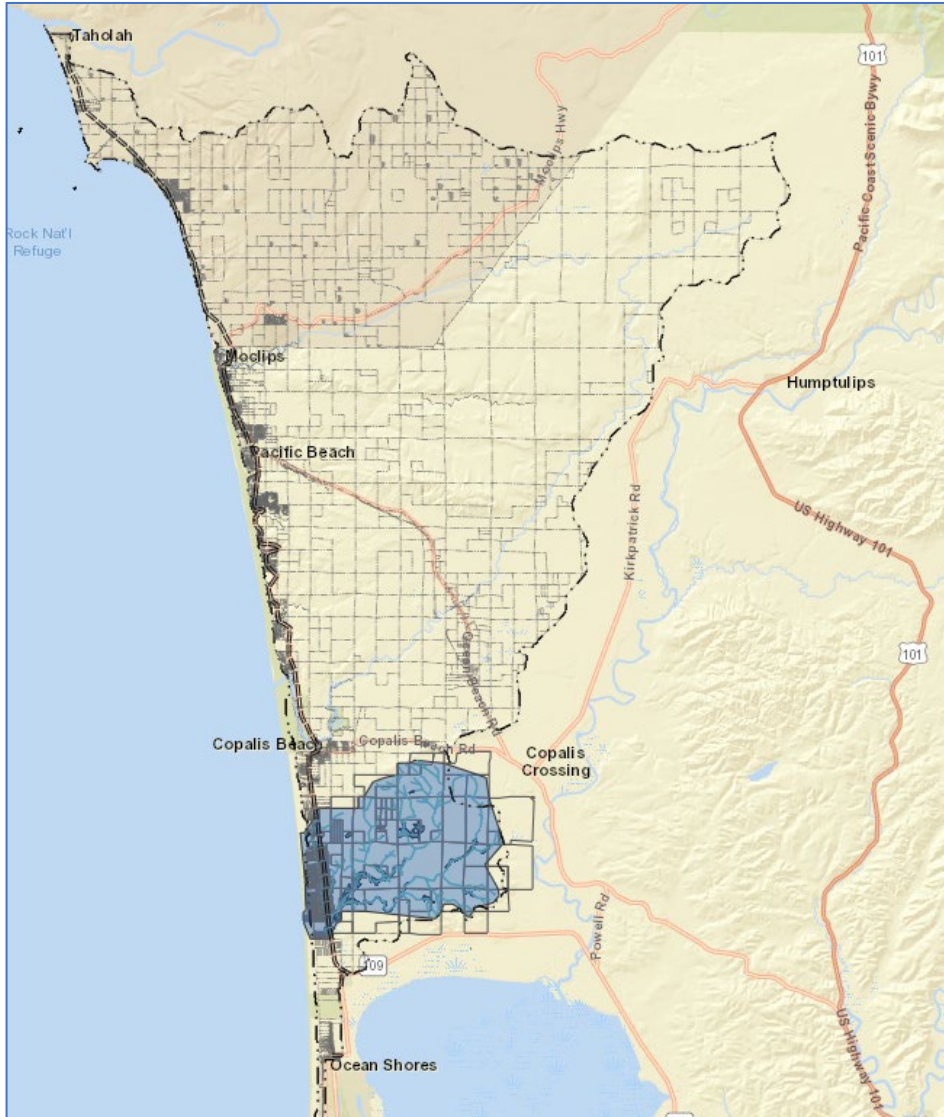
[Cover Page](#) - GHC Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management Plan
[North Beach Flood Hazard Reduction Plan](#)

- [Section 1](#) - Executive Summary
- [Section 2](#) - Recommended Flood Hazard Reduction Plan
- [Section 3](#) - Background [1.1]
- [Section 4](#) - Engineering Methods
- [Section 5](#) - Alternate Flood Hazard Reduction Measures [1.6]
- [Appendix A](#) - Connor Creek Hydrologic and Hydraulic Analysis
- [Appendix B](#) - Drainage Model
- [Appendix C](#) - Surveyed Drainage System Maps
- [Appendix D](#) - Principles of Comprehensive Flood Hazard Management
- [Appendix E](#) - Regulatory Programs

1. Issued July 1999 (see [here](#)).
2. Provides a baseline.
3. Out-of-date.



2. Information (Mapping)



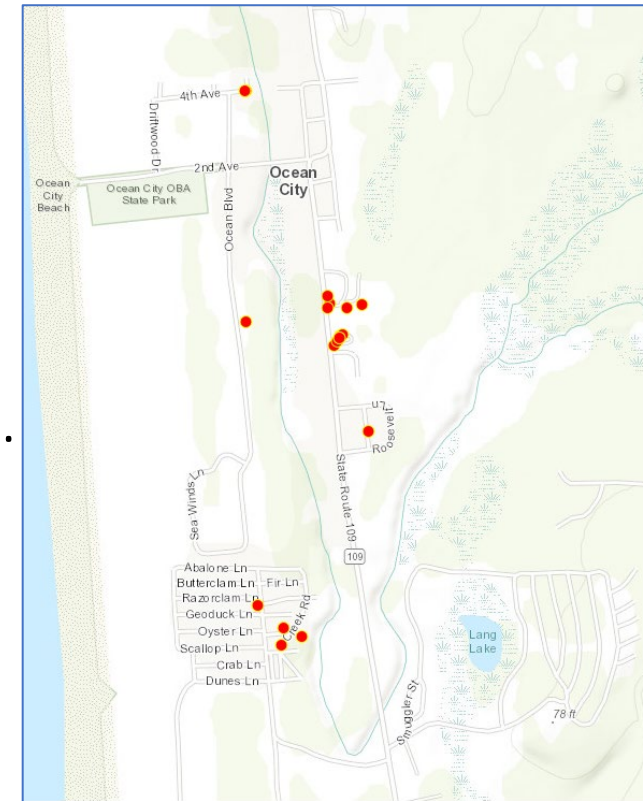
1. Grays Harbor County web-based map with zoomable on/off layers.

2. See <https://arcg.is/0eaKb1>.

3. Layers:

- ✓ Parcels.
- ✓ Infrastructure (wells, bridges, roads).
- ✓ Water (wetlands, streams).
- ✓ Tsunami.
- ✓ Conner Creek watershed.
- ✓ Citizen photo uploads.

4. See instructions [here](#).



2. Information (Photo/Drone/Imagery)

Video

- 1/03/2021 Video (GHFD#7) -- [here](#)
- 2021 or 2022 Video (Grays Harbor Public Utilities) -- [here](#)
- 12/05/2023 Video (Wendy) -- [here](#)
- 12/10/2023 Video (Wendy) -- [here](#)

Drone Footage

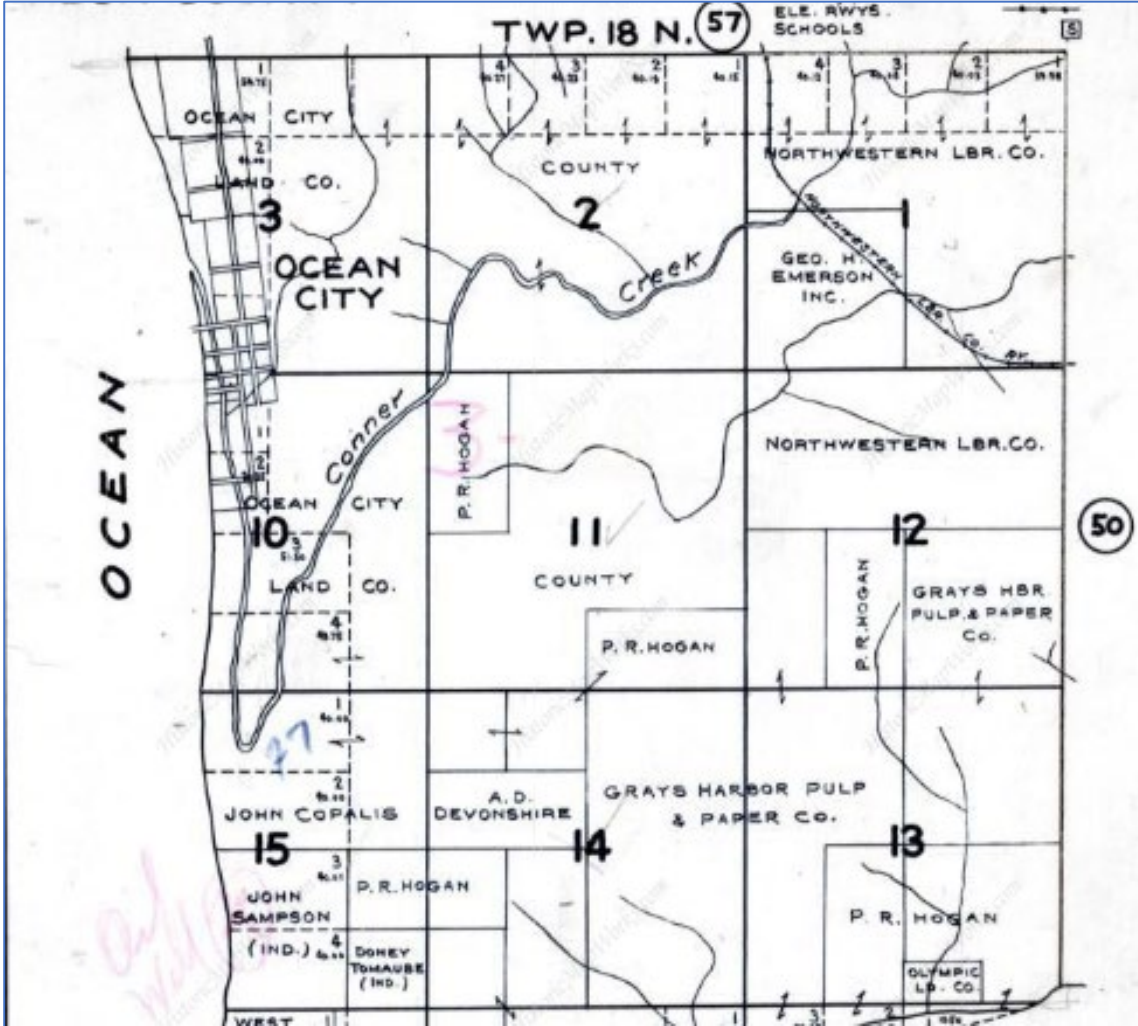
- 11/15/2023 Drone (Jim Weber) -- [here 1](#) and [here 2](#)

Photo Footage

- Photo -- [here](#)



2. Information (Photo/Drone/Imagery)



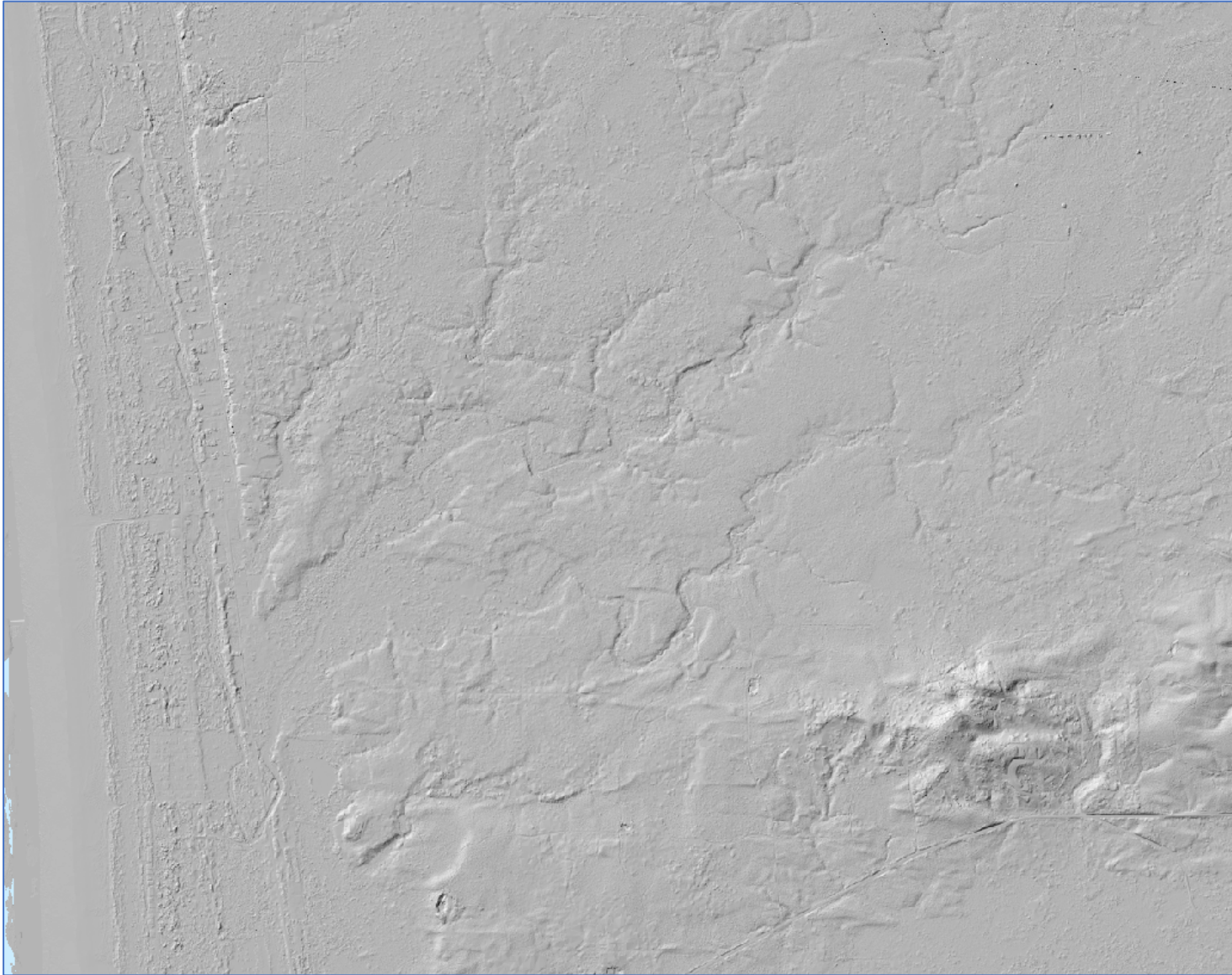
← 1935 (org. 1927)



1944 →



2. Information (Photo/Drone/Imagery)



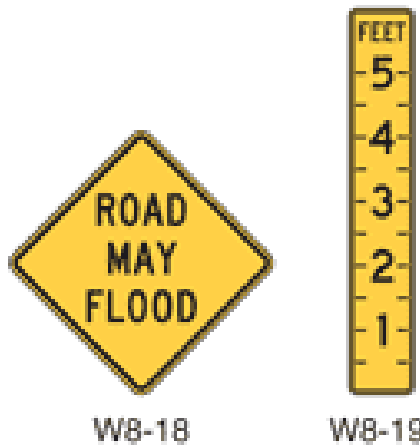
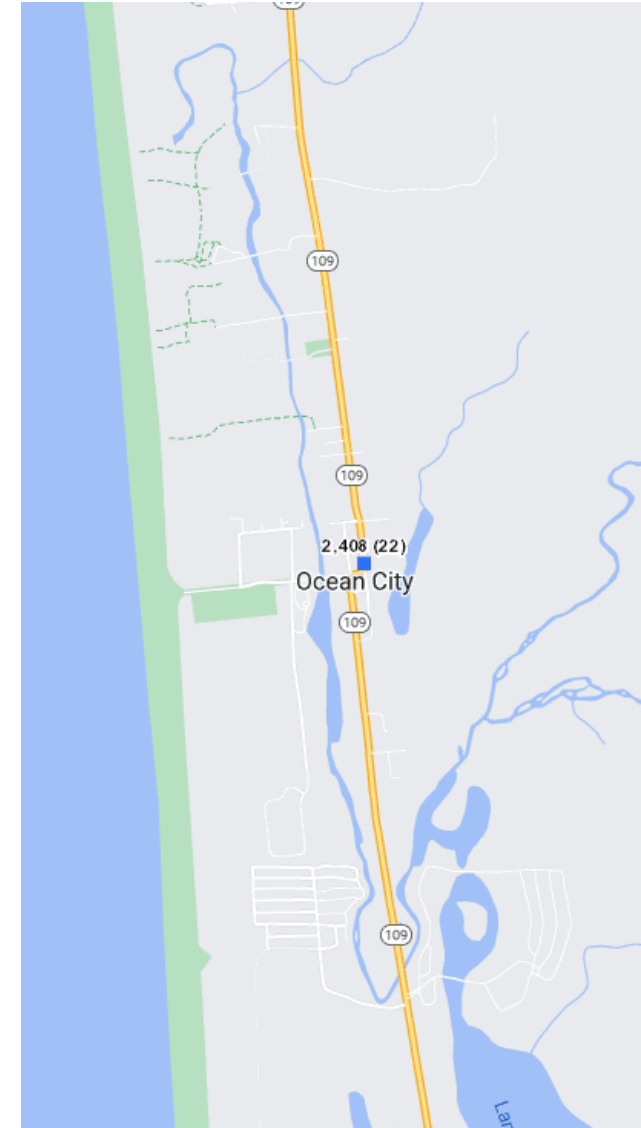
[https://lidarportal.dnr.wa.gov/
#47.07366:-124.13392:14](https://lidarportal.dnr.wa.gov/#47.07366:-124.13392:14)



2. Information (Other Documentation)



2,408 two-way daily vehicle trips in 2022 ([Location ID CS07522](#)) →



← WSDOT will soon install flood warning and flood depth [signs](#) on SR109

3. Ideas/Possible Solutions

Implementation Ideas	Planning Ideas
<p>1. Drainage/Conveyance -- Develop Connor Creek <u>drainage plan</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Locate/evaluate existing drainage infrastructure (public/private). • Determine drainage volumes and needs (today/future). • Factor in tidal effects. • Determine alignments, rights-of-way, property acquisition needs. • Develop DRAFT and FINAL plan. 	<p>5. North Beach Future -- Assess the importance of flood hazard reduction to the future of North Beach and evaluate the extent to which current flooding hinders that vision.</p> <p>6. Past Planning/Studies – Review/update existing plans, e.g., 1999 North Beach Flood Hazard Management Plan.</p>
<p>2. Drainage/Conveyance -- Consider formation of <u>drainage district</u>.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Review operations/history/experience of GH Drainage District #1. • Review formation process. • Determine scope (regular drainage system maintenance). • Evaluate benefits vs. costs, e.g., entities have longevity, can apply for grants. 	<p>7. Documentation -- Correlate/document/map flooding frequency/duration with weather/creek conditions to better “tell the story.”</p>
<p>3. Emergency Response -- Investigate <u>first responder needs</u> (equipment, signage, flood tracking and warning, etc.).</p>	<p>8. Funding – Identify funding programs. Seek input/perspective from GHCOG, GHCD, OCB, FEMA.</p>
<p>4. Infrastructure (Gaging) -- Install <u>stream and weather station gages</u> to document and inform about flooding conditions.</p>	<p>9. Flood Warning -- Explore neighboring Chehalis River Basin Flood Warning System and consider partnerships.</p>



B. Discuss Next Steps

1. **Need Two Groups** – Implementation Group and Planning Group.
2. **Next Meeting** – March 21, 2024 (6-8 PM, OSORC and Zoom)
 - ✓ Updates from Implementation Group and Planning Group
 - ✓ Update from WSDOT regarding SR109 Closures/Detours Summer 2024 (read more [here](#))

Implementation Group:

- ✓ Ground truth implementation ideas.
- ✓ Cost-out, prioritize/sequence for next meeting.
- ✓ 3-4 meetings.

Planning Group:

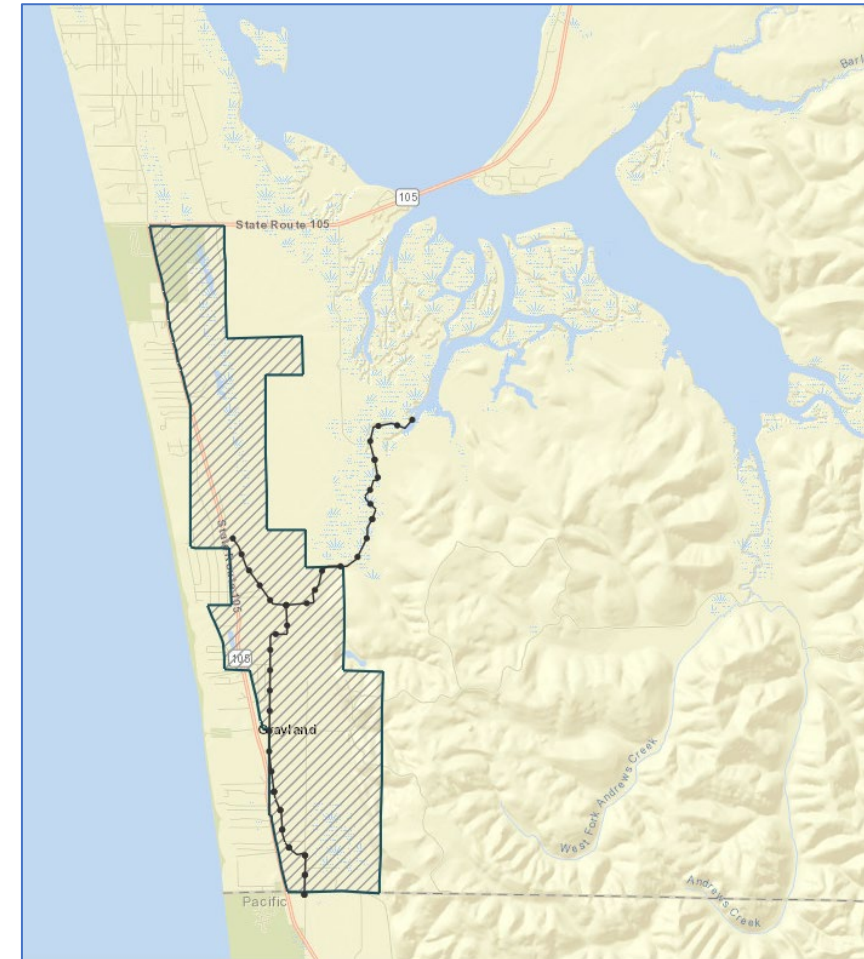
- ✓ Ground truth planning ideas.
- ✓ Cost-out, prioritize/sequence for next meeting.
- ✓ 3-4 meetings.



C. Additional Resources

1. Westport Tidal Predictions – [here](#)
2. King Tides Calendar -- [here](#)
3. WSDOT SR109 Traffic Counts (enter Location ID CS07522) -- [here](#)
4. GHC Ocean Beach Rd. Traffic Counts -- [here](#)
5. GHC Conner Creek Project Web Map:
 - Map -- [here](#)
 - Instructions -- [here](#)
6. Connor Creek Migration Imagery (Google Timelapse) -- [here](#)
7. Funding Opportunities (8-30-2023) – [here](#)
8. Drone Footage following Event #3 (Jim Weber, 11-15-2023) -- [here 1](#) and [here 2](#)

Grays Harbor Drainage District #1



Attachment A – Meetings/Conversations

Date	Who	Major Discussion Themes/Topics
10/05/2023	Luke Crooks (OSORC)	Drainage/Conveyance
10/16/2023	Chris Talevich, Kyle Scott (GH County Utilities)	Infrastructure (protection/access)
10/16/2023	Mike Wichers (Homeowner)	Drainage/Conveyance
10/16/2023	Vladimir Shepsis (Applied Ocean Energy Co.)	Past Planning/Studies (coastal geomorphology)
10/16/2023	Stan Sturgeon (Sturgeon Trailer Harbor)	Drainage/Conveyance
11/15/2023	Bill Scott, Tricia Sorenson (WSDOT Maintenance)	Drainage/Conveyance, SR109 (travel, maintenance)
11/21/2023	Brandon Carman, Amy Spoon (WDFW)	Drainage/Conveyance
12/01/2023	Lynette Buffington (Greater Grays Harbor)	North Beach Future
12/06/2023	Jim Weber (OSORC, Drone enthusiast)	Documentation (flooding pictures/drone)
12/07/2023	Matt Reichenberger (GH Drainage District 1)	Drainage/Conveyance (managing, operating drainage district)
12/08/2023	Stan Sturgeon (Sturgeon Trailer Harbor)	Drainage/Conveyance
12/13/2023	Chief Stephanie Selin (GHFD#7)	Emergency Response
12/13/2023	Lisa McElliot (Pacific Beach Business Owner)	SR109 (travel)
12/21/2023	Stephen Poulakos (Seabrook)	North Beach Future, Past Planning/Studies
12/26/2023	LJ Robinson (Kiewit Project Manager)	SR109 (Summer 2024 fish passage projects)
1/10/2024	Mike Nordin (Grays Harbor Conservation District)	Drainage/Conveyance
1/17/2024	Vicki Cummings (Grays Harbor Council of Governments)	North Beach Future, Past Planning/Studies

