

# Chehalis Basin Strategy

## Aquatic Species Restoration Plan (ASRP)

### The Chehalis Basin ASRP: part of an ambitious strategy for a resilient future

The ASRP is a key element of the Chehalis Basin Strategy, which was launched in 2010 to meet two of the Basin's greatest challenges:

1. The precipitous decline of salmon and other aquatic species
2. The certainty that catastrophic flooding will once again devastate the Basin

The ASRP offers a detailed roadmap for restoring habitat and protecting ecosystems along the rivers and streams of the Chehalis Basin. The ASRP prioritizes ecosystems and actions that will have the greatest impact, creating a more resilient future for aquatic species while also protecting communities and reinvigorating local economies. Together with other parts of the Chehalis Basin Strategy, these actions present an historic opportunity to create a safer, more resilient, and prosperous region for current residents and future generations.

### Why do we need it?

#### TO REVERSE ALARMING DECLINES

Aquatic species face a grave future under the status quo, with estimates that salmon populations are already less than half their historic run sizes. Climate change impacts are a major driver in projected future declines. Without meaningful action, some important species could be extinct by the end of the century.

#### TO FULFILL THE BASIN'S PROMISE

The Chehalis Basin holds great promise to increase ecosystem resiliency when compared to other regions in the state where more widespread degradation and endangered species listings have already happened, and where human population and development pressures are greater.

### What kind of issues will be addressed?



Degraded **stream habitats** could be enhanced by in-stream wood placement, replanting stream-side areas, reconnecting side channels, and other actions.



Correcting barriers to **fish passage** can improve access to quality habitats that support multiple species and increase connectivity among aquatic habitats.



Headwater wetlands and cold water springs are likely to be resilient to climate change effects on stream temperature, making these areas **important refuges** to protect.



Restoring the upper parts of the basin first promotes resilient habitats downstream by providing **ample cold water** throughout the year.

### Interested in participating in a project? Get in touch with a local implementation coordinator:

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(360) 996-4560

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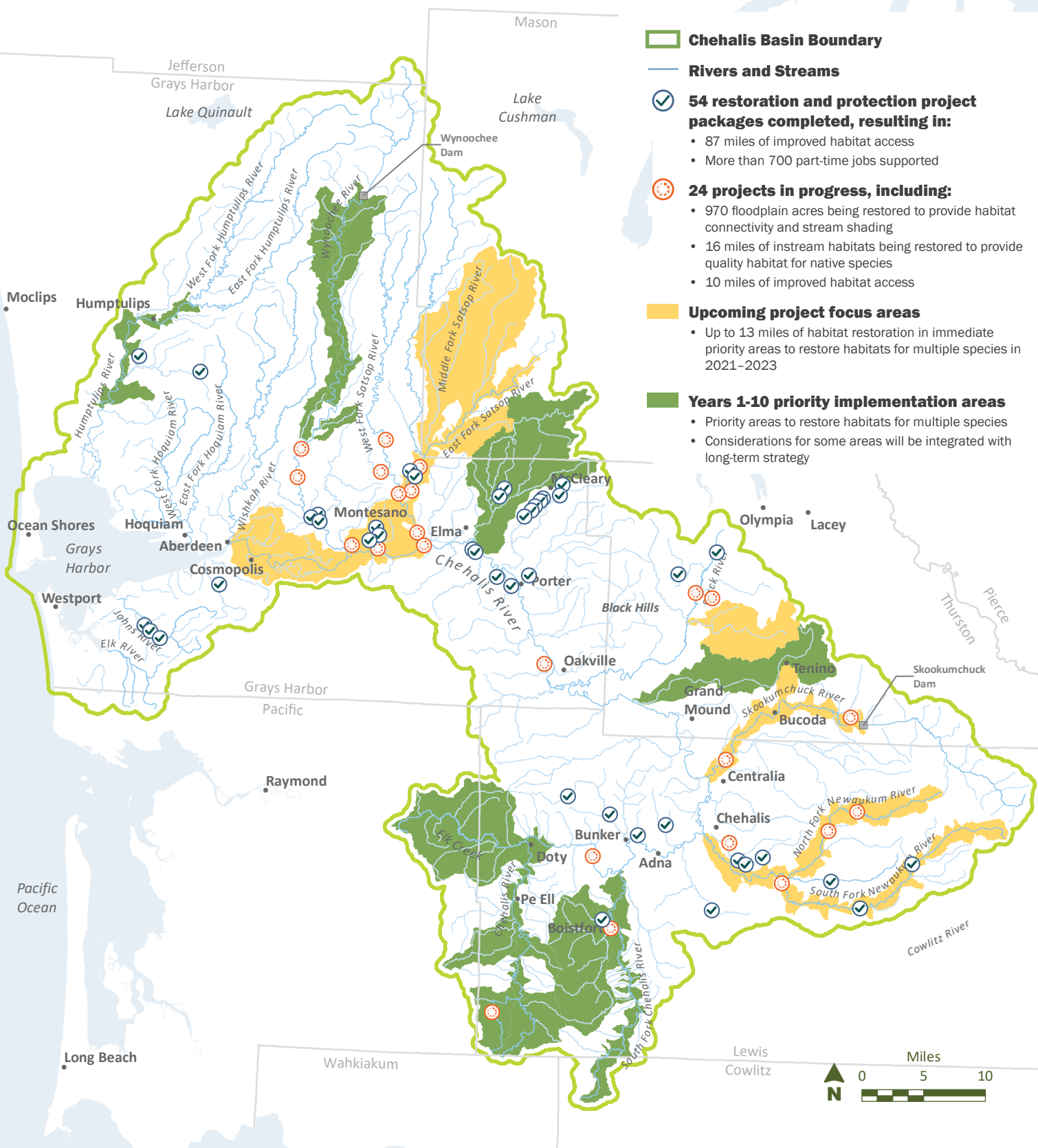
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### Strategy-Funded Accomplishments: 2015–Spring 2021



**Chehalis Basin Boundary**

**Rivers and Streams**

**54 restoration and protection project packages completed, resulting in:**

- 87 miles of improved habitat access
- More than 700 part-time jobs supported

**24 projects in progress, including:**

- 970 floodplain acres being restored to provide habitat connectivity and stream shading
- 16 miles of instream habitats being restored to provide quality habitat for native species
- 10 miles of improved habitat access

**Upcoming project focus areas**

- Up to 13 miles of habitat restoration in immediate priority areas to restore habitats for multiple species in 2021–2023

**Years 1-10 priority implementation areas**

- Priority areas to restore habitats for multiple species
- Considerations for some areas will be integrated with long-term strategy