

The Long-Term Chehalis Basin Strategy:

Creating a safer, more resilient future for people and aquatic life

Over the last century, salmon runs in the Chehalis Basin have declined dramatically, and floods have become bigger and more frequent. Scientists warn these trends will continue.

For a long time, people have fought over these issues. Now, we're finally making progress.

Since 2017, the Chehalis Basin Board – a diverse group of representatives from Tribes, local governments, citizens, and state agencies – has brought forth *more than 140 projects* that have protected homes and businesses, restored fish habitat, and prepared the region for future catastrophic floods.



Critical decisions ahead

Through early 2026, the Board is weighing long-term options to protect people and aquatic life for decades to come. Key questions the Board will seek to answer include:

- How much should be invested in **aquatic restoration** for the next 30+ years?
- Are large-scale structural flood option(s) needed for the upper basin, such as a **flow-through dam** near Pe Ell, a system of **local levees and floodwalls** in and around Chehalis and Centralia, or some combination of both?
- What is the best pathway for the **Skookumchuck Dam** going forward?

In addition to addressing these questions, the long-term strategy will include continued support for local projects, policies, and programs that protect basin communities, individual residents, and habitats.

Science-based, community-informed

The Board's recommendations will be informed by...



Technical studies that compare the benefits, costs, and trade-offs of factors such as:

- How many homes can be protected
- How fish populations will be impacted
- What the long-term economic and environmental effects will be



Input from the local governments, basin organizations, and community members

See back page for more details.

2025

April - June

July - December

2026

January - March



Throughout 2025, you will be able to learn more and have your voice heard via webinars, open houses, community events, a survey, and Board listening sessions.

The Board will consider input collected throughout the year, along with the results of the technical studies, in its final deliberations in early 2026.

We want to hear from you

Scan the QR code or visit www.officeofchehalisbasin.com/LTS



Accommodation requests

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Reducing flood damage and restoring aquatic life.

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