

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 240 projects* that have protected homes and businesses, restored fish habitat, and prepared the region for future catastrophic floods.

Critical decisions ahead

The Board is considering several key questions about how to protect people and aquatic life for decades to come, including:

- How much should be invested in **aquatic restoration** over the long term?
- 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?

Big infrastructure projects like the proposed dam, proposed levees, and Skookumchuck Dam options, will have effects that last for centuries. The Board wants the best information before making a decision. The long-term strategy will provide a concrete plan for answering remaining questions about these projects. At the same time, the Board plans to expand the projects and programs that are already making positive impacts for local communities and aquatic habitats across the Basin. The strategy will describe a plan for accelerating on-the-ground results, including:

- Protecting and restoring habitat for salmon and other aquatic life
- Elevating or voluntarily acquiring flood-prone buildings
- Slowing erosion hazards with natural materials to protect properties and improve habitat
- Keeping communities safe through real-time flood warnings and local projects such as pump stations and flood walls



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 local governments, organizations, and community members

Stay informed and involved

- Learn more and stay engaged through OCB's website, newsletter, community events, and monthly Board meetings.
- The Board will consider input collected throughout the year, along with the results of the technical studies, in its deliberations.

We want to hear from you

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



Accommodation requests

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Si tiene dificultades para entender la lengua inglesa o presenta una discapacidad, puede solicitar asistencia lingüística y otros tipos de ayudar y servicios sin coste alguno. Llame al siguiente número de teléfono 360-706-4277.



Reducing flood damage and restoring aquatic life.

