



# Chehalis Basin Strategy

Large scale flood reduction action elements

Summer/Fall 2016




The Chehalis Basin Strategy is an ambitious collection of potential actions to both improve river habitat and reduce flood damage. These include near-term and long-term actions, as well as small and large scale projects. Nothing is decided at this point – these are actions being considered. A variety of large scale actions can reduce the area’s exposure to damage from flooding, though no action would protect communities from all flooding. The potential large scale actions being considered are described below.

Potential Action	Description	
<p>Flood Retention Facility (i.e., dam and associated reservoir) and Fish Passage Systems</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Flood Retention Only Dam (FRO)</li> <li>• Flood Retention and Flow Augmentation Dam (FRFA)</li> </ul>	<p>Both dam types being considered would be located on the upper Chehalis River near Pe Ell, and are intended to reduce damages during major flood events.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• The FRO dam would be constructed to retain water temporarily during major floods only, and the river would flow normally during regular conditions or smaller floods.</li> <li>• The FRFA dam would be constructed to retain water permanently instead of only during major floods. In addition to reducing flood damage during the winter, summer, and early fall, the water from the reservoir would be released to provide more water and cooler water temperatures.</li> </ul>	 <p><i>Rendering of FRFA Facility (100-year Flood Stage)</i></p>
<p>Restorative Flood Protection</p>	<p>Rebuild the natural flood storage capacity of the Chehalis Basin by reversing landscape changes that contribute to downstream flooding and erosion. This would be achieved through actions including raising areas of the riverbed, replanting native trees and vegetation, and building back-up channels into areas that historically flooded.</p>	 <p><i>Chehalis Basin</i></p>

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Airport Levee Improvements	Improvements to the Chehalis-Centralia Municipal Airport Levee include elevating the height of the existing levee and raising a portion of Airport Road. The levee's height would be increased between 4 and 7 feet. A portion of Airport Road would be raised to meet the new airport levee height.	 <p><i>Levee base widening construction</i></p>
I-5 Projects	Includes construction of a series of earthen levees and structural floodwalls – along a five-mile stretch of I-5 in the cities of Chehalis and Centralia – including improvements to the existing airport levee, a new Chehalis Avenue levee, and bridge replacements over Dillenbaugh and Salzer creeks.	 <p><i>I-5 project area in Lewis County</i></p>
Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee	Includes construction of approximately 5.8 miles of levees: 3.5 miles in Aberdeen and 2.3 miles in Hoquiam. The levees would encompass the majority of the lowlands in Aberdeen and Hoquiam east of the Hoquiam River, north of Grays Harbor, north of the Chehalis River, and west of the Wishkah River	 <p><i>Levee at Grays Harbor Public Market, Hoquiam</i></p>

## For more information

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