

American Whitewater

First name	LAST NAME	DATE
Bill	Arthur	11/14/2016
Russell	Baker	11/9/2016
Norman	Baker	11/13/2016
Brian	Barger	11/10/2016
Nathan	Bell	11/10/2016
Erica	Bleke	11/11/2016
Maria	Boylan	11/14/2016
Paul	Bunce	11/11/2016
Paul	Butler	11/12/2016
Elizabeth	Carter	11/14/2016
Brett	Clubbe	11/10/2016
Colleen	Coleman	11/11/2016
Jacob	Cruser	11/10/2016
Julie	Dalsaso	11/14/2016
Tanya	Dias	11/13/2016
Joe	Diller	11/14/2016
Marianne	Eddington	11/14/2016
Demaris	Elkins	11/10/2016
Susan	Elliot	11/14/2016
Patrick	Farneman	11/14/2016
Phyllis	Farrell	11/13/2016
Miranda	Foster	11/14/2016
William	French	11/15/2016
Justine	Fry	11/10/2016
Chris	Gabrielli	11/10/2016
Barret	Gifford	11/11/2016
Josh	Goldbach	11/14/2016
Jennie	Goldberg	11/9/2016
Ben	Griffith	11/14/2016
Peter	Guerrero	11/13/2016
Chase	Gunnell	11/10/2016
Chris	Hankins	11/10/2016
Christopher	Harjes	11/11/2016
Benjamin	Hawthorne	11/11/2016
Jessica	Helsley	11/10/2016
Carolyn	Henry	11/9/2016
Kevin	Holte	11/10/2016
Megan	Hooker	11/9/2016
Brian	Hoskisson	11/14/2016
Jarred	Jackman	11/10/2016
Keith	Jensen	11/14/2016

First name	LAST NAME	DATE
Dean	Johnny	11/9/2016
Megan	Kelly	11/15/2016
Jack	Kennedy	11/15/2016
Mark	Kieran	11/14/2016
Elissa	Lardom	11/14/2016
Ann	Lewis	11/13/2016
Chelsea	Liddell	11/14/2016
James	Matthews	11/14/2016
Joel	Mccune	11/14/2016
Ryan	Mcgrady	11/14/2016
Michael	Mchenry	11/10/2016
Rose	Mcmackin	11/14/2016
Neil	Mcnut	11/14/2016
Jean	Mendoza	11/13/2016
Joel	Metcalfe	11/14/2016
James	Michel	11/10/2016
Debbie	Moore	11/10/2016
Irene	Nash	11/14/2016
Sue	Niezgoda	11/10/2016
Phil	Prasek	11/15/2016
Laurence	Reeves	11/10/2016
Ryan	Richardson	11/10/2016
Clay	Roehner	11/14/2016
Jesse	Rosenweig	11/12/2016
Jenny	Rutledge	11/11/2016
Carie	Saunders	11/14/2016
Kathy	Schaeffer	11/14/2016
Darlene	Schandfald	11/14/2016
Nicholas	Scott	11/14/2016
Flint	Semega	11/11/2016
Christine	Silver	11/14/2016
Kyle	Smith	11/14/2016
Walther	Soeldner	11/13/2016
Deb	Stewart	11/11/2016
Paul	Thompson	11/11/2016
Mike	Thurston	11/14/2016
Andrew	Tindall	11/9/2016
J.A.	Titone	11/13/2016
Carmen	Tomas	11/10/2016
Greg	Van Horn	11/10/2016
Sander	Van Tol	11/14/2016
Brian	Wade	11/14/2016
Stewart	Wadsworth	11/14/2016

First name	LAST NAME	DATE
Susan	Wall	11/13/2016
Joel	Welsh	11/14/2016
Raymond	Witter	11/13/2016
James	Wood	11/12/2016

From: [REDACTED] Bill Arthur [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 10:13 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Bill Arthur

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Norman Baker
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 8:40 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
Norman Baker

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Russell Baker [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 11:13 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a human being and fisherman who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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As an enrolled member of The Confederated Tribes of The Chehalis, I strongly oppose the dam. The Chehalis River provides fish for my family as it has for many generations past. As a parent myself, I want my children to carry on the tradition.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Russell Baker

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Brian Barger [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 5:51 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
Brian Barger

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Nathan. Bell
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:06 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

This was one of the first kayak runs Matt Jordan and I did upon arriving in the PNW, and was the first place I ever saw wild salmon. We must have been there during the peak of a run, because when we were at the Cape Horn rapid there were dozens of them climbing all over each other to ascend the rapid. They were jumping out of the stream and flopping around on the banks trying to get up it. We literally could have just grabbed one. The watershed is heavily impacted already, and the whitewater is pretty good, but the fish definitely love this place. Humans should move out of the floodplain.

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
Nathan. Bell



From: [REDACTED] Erica Bleke
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 11:25 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
Erica Bleke

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Maria Boylan [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 7:39 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
Maria Boylan

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Paul Bunce [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 12:02 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
Paul Bunce

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Paul Butler [REDACTED]
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2016 9:27 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. As a long-time whitewater kayaker and retired professor of earth scientist, I am certain that there are less expensive and more effective alternatives to a new dam. Once you go down that path, it's difficult to walk it back.

I used to paddle several runs on the upper Chehalis River back in the late 80's and 90's. It was an absolute gem of an experience. As time went by the landowner limited access, but not the fond memories of the time spent. If the access problems could be overcome, a new generation of paddlers would get to experience what my friends and I did way back when. Clearly, river access and forest practices can be compatible, as they are in many other river basins.

At a time when the wisdom of dam building in the Pacific Northwest is being questioned at numerous locations, it makes no sense to add more obstacles to fish, anglers, or paddlers. I urge you to instead consider "softer" alternatives.

Sincerely,
Paul Butler

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Elizabeth Carter
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 2:56 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Elizabeth Carter

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Brett Clubbe [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 8:41 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

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Sincerely,
Brett Clubbe

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Colleen Coleman [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 11:31 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Colleen Coleman
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Jacob Crusier
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 7:51 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Jacob Crusier

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Julie Dalsaso
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 6:01 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. Overtime, we as a society are more familiar with over 50 years of data related to Dams blocking a functioning ecosystem! We are on the brink of losing Salmon. New unintended consequences of methane releases given 'hot' organic decomposition occurring at large Northwest Dams remains a huge factor in dams contributing to global warming via Methane (read Wa.State Univ. related studies on Dams in Methane).

Greedy logging practices by Weyerhaeuser Corporation created flood hazards from massive overcutting. The Chehalis River Basin has already taken a beating and doesn't need further choking with FRFA. Local solutions to improve aquatic conditions will better serve the River system all the way to Grays Harbor.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Julie Dalsaso

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Tanya Dias [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 6:20 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I would also like to agree with these fine points written below in addition to what I have written and already sent.

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Tanya Dias

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Joe Dillier [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 11:27 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
Joe Dillier

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Marianne Eddington
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 9:32 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a fisherman and former river rafter , I am very concerned about the plans to dam the Chehalis.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Marianne Eddington

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Demaris Elkins [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 8:25 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I stand with my fellow whitewater boaters and support them in their effort to keep nature.

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Demaris Elkins

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Susan Elliott
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 9:49 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a Water Resource Engineer graduate research assistant who has investigated river restoration methodology and a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

Because Washington rivers are of such high quality, I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support options that would have not only flood protection benefits, but that would also increase the quality of the salmon and other species habitat in this essential watershed basin without the costly and controversial process of building and maintaining a dam. I would like to see further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative.

The aquatic ecosystem benefits would be greatest with the Restorative Flood Protection method. Including habitat restoration as a part of dam construction is not an effective solution for maintaining the quality habitat we see on the Washington's coast. This basin is too important to risk habitat destruction that comes with dam building.

In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin.

Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

We have better science now than flood control dams. I would like to see Washington state recognize that better options exist for both flood control and ecosystem preservation.

Additionally, the placement of a dam on the Chehalis River would cause the loss of an economic input to the region in the form of recreational boating opportunities. The "Flood Retention Facility would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you

to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Susan Elliott



From: [REDACTED] Patrick Farneman [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 12:25 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Patrick Farneman

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] phyllis farrell [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 9:56 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
phyllis farrell

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Miranda Foster
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 2:51 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
Miranda Foster

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] William French
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 5:53 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
William French

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Justine Fry [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 6:28 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Justine Fry

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Chris Gabrielli
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 5:57 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Chris Gabrielli

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Barrett gifford
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 1:33 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Follow Up Flag: Follow up
Flag Status: Completed

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Barrett gifford

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Josh Goldbach
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 1:44 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Josh Goldbach

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Jennie Goldberg [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 9:58 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I'm a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide so I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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I have been paddling in the state of Washington for over 30 years and have been fortunate to have paddled a 15 mile long stretch of the Chehalis River from the West Fork to Pe Ell. To this day, it is still a river run I vividly remember.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects. It's not necessary to build a dam that destroys fish and wildlife habitat and ruins recreation when perfectly good alternatives exist.

Sincerely,
Jennie Goldberg

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Ben Griffith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 11:45 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Ben Griffith

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Peter Guerrero
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 7:10 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Peter Guerrero

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Chase Gunnell
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 5:22 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Chase Gunnell

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Chris Hankins
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 5:47 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I'm not from Washington state, but I wanted to write to you because I feel strongly about how important it is to keep our nation's rivers free-flowing. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Chris Hankins

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] christopher harjes
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 3:20 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
christopher harjes

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Benjamin Hawthorne
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 10:11 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am a whitewater boater who paddles frequently on the rivers in our beautiful state. I have accessed sections on nearby rivers but have never had the opportunity to experience the Chehalis due to access restrictions.

I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am against a new dam on the Chehalis River, and both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives are unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. The long term negative effect of building a large dam is too great to justify.

I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Benjamin Hawthorne

[REDACTED]

From: Ken Ghalambor [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2016 3:46 PM
To:
Subject: FW: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 8:49 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Jessica Helsley
[REDACTED]



From: [REDACTED] Carolyn Henry
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 8:00 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Carolyn Henry

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Kevin Holte [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:47 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Kevin Holte

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Megan Hooker
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 4:46 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater enthusiast who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Megan Hooker

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Brian Hoskisson [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 7:05 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Brian Hoskisson

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Jarred Jackman
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 8:31 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

Hello, as a resident of southwest Washington, I'm distraught at the possibility of a dam on the Chehalis River. I realize the purpose the dam would serve, but do not understand why temporary human needs should trump the needs of the environment. I imagine there are multiple opportunities and solutions to the problems at hand. Building an enormous dam on the second largest river valley in our state can't possibly be the only opportunity to find equilibrium in the Chehalis Valley.

A dam would inhibit or halt the migration of fish and irreparably alter the riparian zone in and around the valley. If a dam is constructed, the changes it creates will last for centuries. This isn't a question of use, or needs, it's a question of, what gives humans the right to construct obstructions within a very small area or zone, that then have devastating effects in countless other areas and zones?

I strongly oppose the construction of this dam in the Chehalis River Valley. I oppose this dam as a citizen of the state of Washington; I oppose it as a human who is concerned about not only my own welfare but the welfare of the state within which we live and the ecosystems within that state; and I oppose this dam as a recreationalist who enjoys free flowing rivers and all of the ebbs and flows they naturally bring with them.

Please resist the urge to harness the world to suit the needs of a few humans who will be short lived in the grand scheme of life. Attempt to think ahead; think progressively; adapt rather than obliterate.

Thank you for your time.

Sincerely,
Jarred Jackman

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Keith Jensen [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 5:43 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

The Chehalis River, in close proximity to the Vancouver/Portland area can enjoy economic benefits from Whitewater recreation as does the White Salmon River. This has led to sustainable development in the rural White Salmon valley.

Sincerely,
Keith Jensen

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Dean Johnny [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 8:12 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I want to oppose any method of slowing, deterring, altering and installment of a Dam on the Chehalis River.

Concerns of invasive flooding began when man begin to develop in areas eliminating Chehalis River's ability to naturally strengthen its ecosystem by establishing natural wetlands. These natural wetlands provided Flood protection to environment and residents downstream.

History has proven when man seeks to harness or control natural flowing rivers, valuable natural resources are lost.

I do not believe installing g a Dam is worth the loss of what little natural environment we have left.

Sincerely,
Dean Johnny

[REDACTED]

From: Ken Ghalambor [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 22, 2016 3:47 PM
To: Aileen Manley
Subject: FW: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

-----Original Message-----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 6:07 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Megan Kelly



From: [REDACTED] Jack Kennedy
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 8:10 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
Jack Kennedy

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Mark Kieran
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 11:36 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
Mark Kieran

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Elissa Lardom [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 10:30 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
Elissa Lardom

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Ann Lewis
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 9:30 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy. I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River for the following reasons:

1. There are better alternatives including focusing on local actions to reduce flood damage as well as aquatic restoration.
2. The dam/reservoir proposal has few benefits. It may improve a small amount of habitat just downstream of the dam, but the reservoir footprint will destroy a substantial amount of spawning habitat and wipe out juvenile lamprey. The risks are too large and the benefits too speculative.
3. Dams will affect the movement of large woody debris and sediment in the river, with negative impacts all the way down the system to Grays Harbor.
4. A recent WSU study indicates that reservoir in our latitudes release much more methane than previously thought. The Draft PEIS does not assess how much the proposed reservoirs will contribute to GHG emissions.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Ann Lewis

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Chelsea Liddell
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 1:07 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
Chelsea Liddell

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] james mathews
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 9:06 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

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Sincerely,
james mathews

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Joel McCune [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 2:23 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Joel McCune

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Ryan McGrady
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 12:45 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Ryan McGrady

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Michael McHenry
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 2:37 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

Dear Ms. Bailey,

It is absolutely unthinkable that a new dam could be constructed on the largest free-flowing river in the state of Washington. I totally oppose that action to the core. Local governments have allowed the floodplain of the Chehalis to be developed and are paying the cost in terms of flooding. I support other alternatives that include moving people and infrastructure out of harms way, conservation and restoration strategies. Damming the Chehalis is criminal, clearly will not promote salmon recovery, is not cost effective and violates tribal treaty rights.

Sincerely,
Michael McHenry

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Rose McMackin
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 12:24 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Rose McMackin

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Neil McNutt
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 7:57 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
Neil McNutt

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Jean Mendoza
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 5:55 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
Jean Mendoza

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Joel Metcalfe
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 11:30 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Joel Metcalfe

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] James michel [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 8:53 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
James michel

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Debbie Moore
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 5:22 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys recreational opportunities across the country I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Debbie Moore

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Irene Nash [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 11:27 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Irene Nash

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sue Niezgoda [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 7:41 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Sue Niezgoda

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Phil Prasek [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, November 15, 2016 8:54 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Phil Prasek

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Laurence Reeves
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 4:18 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a concerned citizen who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide, I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
Laurence Reeves

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Ryan Richardson [REDACTED]
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 9:00 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Ryan Richardson

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Clay Roehner
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 7:51 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Clay Roehner

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Jesse Rosenzweig
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2016 7:07 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Jesse Rosenzweig

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Jenny Rutledge [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 9:37 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Jenny Rutledge

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Carie Saunders
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 4:30 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a fisherman and kayaker who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I strongly oppose construction of any new dam on the Chehalis River or any river in Washington state. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

Building a new dam on the Chehalis River (at great cost) is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Carie Saunders

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Kathy Schaeffer
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 11:58 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater lover who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Kathy Schaeffer

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Darlene Schanfald
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 5:33 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy. Dams are a backward step to protecting salmon.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Darlene Schanfald

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] nicholas scott
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 12:01 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
nicholas scott

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Flint Semega [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 9:23 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Flint Semega

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Cristine Silver
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 1:58 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Cristine Silver

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Kyle Smith [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 10:56 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Kyle Smith

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Walther Soeldner
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 9:31 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a person who cares about natural habitat and free-flowing rivers, I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to the construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Walther Soeldner

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Deb Stewart [REDACTED]
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 10:59 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Deb Stewart

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Paul Thompson
Sent: Friday, November 11, 2016 8:34 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

Not too many years ago when we had easier access to the Chehalis River whitewater run this was an absolute favorite day trip of mine. The River is in a beautiful setting, the water clear and clean. The whitewater run is nonstop playful and user-friendly its entire length. Overall the Chehalis River offers outstanding recreational opportunities for all including kayakers and rafters. The Chehalis River is a gem. Considering its location and easy access from urban and suburban centers this section of the River in particular should be considered an invaluable natural resource.

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Paul Thompson

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Mike Thurston
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 6:34 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Mike Thurston

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] andrew tindall
Sent: Wednesday, November 9, 2016 7:35 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects. Families enjoy this river regularly, boaters enjoy its waters & fishing. This dam is another disaster for the people in this state being robbed of a free flowing waterway.

Sincerely,
andrew tindall

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] J.A. Titone [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 12:25 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River.

I am a canoeist and kayaker who does not want to see this river's great recreational potential eliminated for future generations. But far more importantly, I am convinced that environmental costs of a new dam -- especially the loss of spawning habitat -- would outweigh the flood control benefits. Improving floodplain storage and building/enhancing strategic levees would be less destructive and less expensive. Given the research-based concern about methane produced by reservoirs in our region, climate change impact is one more reason not to build a dam.

Flooding is a serious problem, but dam-building is an outmoded solution to it.

Sincerely,
J.A. Titone

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] carmen tomas
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 6:56 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
carmen tomas

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Greg Van Horn
Sent: Thursday, November 10, 2016 5:13 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
Greg Van Horn

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Sander van Tol
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 3:55 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

In addition to the thoughtful and relevant comments below, I would like to add that there are ways to mitigate flood damage without resorting to dams. Examples can be found in many places, including the "room for the river" program in the Netherlands where homes in flood prone areas are bought back from the owners and removed and where infrastructure is upgraded.

This type of strategy is often more cost-effective than building and maintaining a dam and does not result in the downstream loss of sediment and nutrient transport (needed to keep agricultural land fertile and riverside land in general above water line). This strategy also does not block fish passage and in a state with incredible fish resources such as Washington, this is crucial for ecosystem health and long-term employment. Finally, dams make stagnant reservoirs with ugly bathtub rings that loose incredible amounts of water through evaporation. They ruin recreation options such as fly fishing and whitewater rafting/kayaking. Dams permanently destroy natural systems which provide mental health benefits to society while providing a place to live for other species.

In a state that has seen the success of removing dams such as the Elwha, and the reasoning behind that project, it seems short-sighted to consider building a new dam when there are more valid options to consider.

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Sander van Tol

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] BRIAN WADE [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 1:23 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
BRIAN WADE

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Stewart Wadsworth
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 2:21 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,

[REDACTED]
5403 Channel Dr
[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Susan Wall [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 8:15 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function.

In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee.

Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In an era where multiple dams are being breached to restore salmon habitat building one in a currently unimpeded river is short sighted and a waste of public funds.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication that the project would not impact whitewater recreation is due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations by the landowner. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them. Enhancing tourism opportunities in a region that has suffered significantly due to the decline in logging is an opportunity that will be lost if this is built.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Susan Wall

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Joel Welsh [REDACTED]
Sent: Monday, November 14, 2016 4:34 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

There is a better way to go about this. Instead of plugging and dulling the spirit of a free flowing river, please consider alternate and diverse management practices to mitigate the flood impacts and to provide positively for fish and wildlife habitat, clean water, environmental education opportunities, and the overall health of the region.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Sincerely,
Joel Welsh

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] Raymond Witter [REDACTED]
Sent: Sunday, November 13, 2016 9:55 PM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

As an outdoor person who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

In addition to impacts on salmon habitat and overall river health that will be degraded with construction of a dam on the Chehalis River, recreational opportunities on the river will be lost. The EIS states that the "Flood Retention Facility [the dam] would permanently foreclose use of this reach of the Chehalis River for whitewater rafters for health and safety reasons," and also notes that "this reach of the river is generally not used for kayaking because of access limitations." The implication is that the project would not impact whitewater recreation due to current low use numbers that result from access limitations. In the past the reach of river that would be inundated by the project has been a great resource for whitewater recreation. Instead of a future where that opportunity would be permanently lost, I encourage the state to work with private forest land owners to enhance recreational opportunities on rivers that flow through commercial timberlands. Outdoor recreation is important to our quality of life in the Pacific Northwest. We should be seeking ways to improve opportunities to enjoy outdoor recreation and access to our waterways and not further limit them.

The proposed alternative to build a new dam on the Chehalis River is not in the public interest, is counter to the Purpose and Need of the EIS, and will further degrade fishery resources and opportunities for whitewater recreation. I urge you to instead consider the Restorative Flood Protection alternative and investment in alternative structural flood protection projects.

Current thinking is about removing dams wherever possible. Building a new dam on the Chehalis should not even be considered.

Sincerely,
Raymond Witter

[REDACTED]

From: [REDACTED] James Wood
Sent: Saturday, November 12, 2016 8:35 AM
To: info@chehalisbasinstrategy.com
Subject: Comments on Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact State for the Chehalis Basin Strategy

Dear EIS Project Manager Chrissy Bailey,

Dear Chrissy Bailey, In regards to the proposed dam on the Chehalis River, there is one unquestionable fact, building dams destroys rivers. The economic, ecological, and spiritual benefits of free flowing rivers are immense. For these reasons, I supports the actions evaluated in the Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) that include projects to reduce flooding and closures of I-5 that do not build a dam. These include airport levee improvements for the Chehalis-Centralia Airport, an Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee, and Restorative Flood Protection that is intended to rebuild some of the lost natural flood storage capacity of the river by reconnecting the river with its floodplain and enhancing natural flood storage. We also support reducing local-scale flood damage through elevating buildings in the floodplain, buying frequently flood-damaged properties from willing landowners, and land use management policies to limit new development in the floodplain.

As a whitewater boater who enjoys the recreational opportunities Washington's rivers provide I am writing to provide comment on the Draft Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement for the Chehalis Basin Strategy.

I am strongly opposed to construction of a new dam on the Chehalis River. I consider both the Flood Retention Only (FRO) and Flood Retention Flow Augmentation (FRFA) dam alternatives to be unacceptable for the future of the currently free-flowing Chehalis River. I support further investigation and development of the Restorative Flood Protection alternative that would provide tangible habitat benefits and enhance natural flood storage capacity through restoring riparian function. In addition, I support investment in structural flood protection projects that do not include the flood retention facility option. These include Airport Levee improvements, I-5 projects, and Aberdeen/Hoquiam North Shore Levee. Finally, I fully support Local-Scale Flood Reduction Actions and Aquatic Species Habitat Actions. Collectively, these actions will best meet the Purpose and Need to address flood risk reduction in a cost-effective and ecologically sustainable manner while addressing degradation of salmon habitat in the basin. Importantly, we can start implementing some of these actions immediately instead of enduring a long and controversial process to build a dam.

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Sincerely,
James Wood

