



*your window to healthy lands*

December 21, 2018

P.O. Box 40500  
Olympia, WA 98504-002

Honorable Washington State Legislators,

The Grays Harbor Conservation District Board of Supervisors supports the full Office of Chehalis Basin 2019-21 Capital Budget request of \$73.2 million for the Chehalis Basin Strategy. The two-pronged approach of the Chehalis Basin Strategy, to reduce flood damage and restore aquatic species populations, aligns well with the District's mission "To protect, conserve, and enhance the many natural resources in our District and to promote the implementation of environmental practices proven to meet these goals."

We have already seen benefits to Grays Harbor County landowners and natural resource assets through Chehalis Basin Strategy funded livestock pads, flood warning systems, habitat restoration, and fish passage improvements, however there is a long ways to go. By fully funding the Chehalis Basin Strategy, the District and other stakeholders will be able to build upon the momentum of this previous work, implement projects that are currently being planned/designed, and build our local economy through the on-the-ground implementation of multi-stakeholder Capital projects.

The comprehensive nature of the Chehalis Basin Strategy is a testament to the many years of hard work by basin stakeholders to collaborate and make tough decisions about how to address flood hazards and declining aquatic species populations. We believe that full funding for this next biennium is critical so as to not lose momentum and for our communities to see further progress on multi-year projects.

Sincerely yours,

Carl Waara, Grays Harbor Conservation District Board of Supervisors Chairman

cc: Andrea McNamara Doyle, Director Office of Chehalis Basin