

Focus on: Community Flood Assistance and Resilience for local and tribal governments



More information

Flooding is a normal part of the ecology in the Chehalis River basin. However, flooding also puts homes, businesses, towns, and community assets at risk. Flooding and flood damage are expected to increase in the future with climate change.

Visit chehalisbasinstrategy.com for more details.

Contact information

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ADA Accessibility

To request ADA accommodations, contact us by phone at 360-407-6831 or email us at

ecyadacoordinator@ecy.wa.gov

Or visit:

ecology.wa.gov/accessibility

For Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341.

Chehalis Basin Strategy: Reducing community flood damage

The Chehalis Basin Strategy is an ambitious collection of potential actions to address the twin challenges of reducing damages from flooding and restoring degraded aquatic habitat in the Chehalis River basin. The Chehalis Basin is the second largest river basin in the state.

The Strategy includes near- and long-term actions as well as small- and large-scale projects designed to reduce flood-related damage in the Basin while also restoring aquatic habitat for native species. Not taking action in the Basin could cost Washington as much as \$3.5 billion during the next 100 years.

Community Flood Assistance and Resilience Program

The Community Flood Assistance and Resilience Program (CFAR) is a new element of the Chehalis Basin Strategy. CFAR is being developed to fund a wide range of small-scale projects and actions that will reduce damage from flooding and erosion in communities throughout the Basin.

Initial program phase starts June 1, 2020

The initial CFAR phase runs from June 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. The program is focused on providing local and tribal governments technical support. During the initial phase, additional criteria will be developed to manage the program for the next phase. Ecology's Office of Chehalis Basin (OCB) will administer the program.

Examples of structural modifications eligible for CFAR funding:



Engineered flood vent



Elevated home



Local flood wall

Initial Phase: Technical support and assistance

Technical support for local and tribal governments

Through CFAR, we offer a range of technical support activities for local and tribal governments in the basin that include, but are not limited to, activities such as:

- Providing ongoing education, staff training, and workshops.
- Offering analyses of small-scale areas or neighborhoods.
- Furnishing Community Rating System (CRS) application support.
- Developing Programs for Public Information for CRS purposes.
- Supporting communities to help residents with flood insurance-related questions.
- Giving technical support for conducting public meetings.
- Helping identifying opportunities or priorities for future CFAR funding.

Assistance for landowners, business owner, and renters

For landowners, business owners, and renter in the basin, we offer assistance ranging from providing advice on specific flood topics and flood insurance to in-depth assistance regarding options for protecting homes or businesses during a flood. Please see Ecology Publication 20-06-008 for a more detailed focus on technical assistance for landowners, business owners, and renters.

Technical support

Within the Chehalis Basin, local and tribal governments who are participants in good standing in the National Flood Insurance Program (NFIP) are eligible for technical support. There is no fee for technical support.

Our support is available on an ongoing basis from June 1, 2020, through June 30, 2021. The CFAR program may be revised based on initial lessons learned, and the funding we have available starting July 1, 2021.

Requesting technical support

Ecology's Office of Chehalis Basin administers the CFAR program. To request initial technical support, please call Chrissy Bailey at (360) 407-6781 or email her at: chrissy.bailey@ecy.wa.gov.