Chehalis Basin Strategy Local Actions Program Implementation Advisory Group Meeting #5

January 21, 2021

Meeting Agenda

- Relocation, acquisition, and retrofit program feasibility
- Structural approaches to flood damage reduction
- Opportunities and approaches for increasing floodplain storage
- Agricultural stay-in-place assistance

Floodplain Acquisition Program

Continue discussion of programs using structure relocation, acquisition, and retrofits for flood damage reduction and feasibility of implementing a program in the Chehalis Basin

Breakout room questions:

- What are your initial impressions of the feasibility of initiating and implementing a floodplain acquisition program as one of several flood damage reduction options in the Basin?
- What additional information would be helpful to inform your thinking on feasibility?

Structural Approaches to Flood Damage Reduction

Preview information and criteria from Technical Advisory Group to-date on structural approaches to flood damage reduction

Jamboard question:

 Are there programmatic or policy criteria that should be considered for rating areas for potential structural approaches to flood damage reduction in addition to the technical criteria developed by the Technical Advisory Group?

Increasing Floodplain Storage

Present feedback from Technical Advisory Group and Chehalis Basin Board on the opportunities and approaches for increasing floodplain storage

Agricultural Stay-in-Place Assistance

Presentation from Tim Abbe (Natural Systems Design) on agricultural stay-in-place assistance

Jamboard questions:

- Which opportunities seem most promising for reducing agricultural-related damages from catastrophic flood events?
- What are the biggest challenges to implementing these opportunities?

Implementation Advisory Group Schedule

Meeting #6: February 11, 2021

- Acquisition program, erosion issues, implications and feasibility for potential structural (e.g., levees, floodwalls, etc.)
- Land use recommendations, discussion and followup from meetings

Meeting #7: February 22, 2021

Discussion and follow-up from meetings



Key Elements to Initiate & Implement a Major Floodplain Acquisition Program (1/11/21 IAG Meeting)

- OCB's role in convening and serving as an information repository is an asset
- Magnitude and frequency of disaster.
- Comprehensive engagement of landowners in advance to increase awareness of flooding risks and impacts.
- For relocation, creating a vision of the potential future through master planning.
- Identify viable places for people to move if they choose to participate
- Support for multi-year timeframe to engage and plan before implementation

Key Elements to Initiate & Implement a Major Floodplain Acquisition Program (1/11/21 IAG Meeting)

- Financial incentives may be needed to overcome economic development impacts and ensure there are places with affordable homes and infrastructure for people to move if they are willing
- Thinking holistically about solutions (e.g., connecting to habitat restoration goals) could increase options/opportunities
- Need commitment for funding to support longterm implementation process in support of voluntary program

Breakout Group Questions

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