

February 2, 2026

RE: SEPA Revised Draft Public Comment Chehalis Basin Flood Damage

Chehalis River Basin Flood Control District;

The mission of the Washington State Farm Bureau is Strengthening the Future of Agriculture. The Grays Harbor/Pacific County Farm Bureau adheres to that mission and supports not only the members of Farm Bureau but all members of our farming community.

In spirit of that mission, we present the following comments concerning the SEPA Revised Draft EIS for the Chehalis River Basin Flood Damage Reduction Project. Our focus is on any omissions or errors that were found in the draft.

1. If the words “down stream” are used anywhere in the document then a number qualifier needs to be provided. The document should identify the river mile mark. Such as “Those landowners down stream of the FRE to river mile 5 near Cosmopolis.” Those landowners, of which there are many, need to know if the two proposed projects are going to change the depths or timing of the flows of the river in their areas. Keep in mind that on the Table G-5 labeled zoning, 55% of the lands in the study area are zoned agricultural.

2. The proposal states the water stored behind the dam during a major flood will be held and then a reservoir drawdown will take place. Were there inundation models done taking into account a large water event, also taking place at the same time, in the tributary drainage basins such as the Satsop and how the reservoir drawdown would effect the cresting of the flood waters from the tributaries? If the Satsop River is cresting and flowing into the Chehalis at the same time the drawdown waters from the dam are passing the mouth of the Satsop, the flooding in the Satsop Valley could be made substantially worse. Timing of the drawdown waters flowing to Grays Harbor could be crucial to the areas surrounding the tributaries.

The board of directors for the Grays Harbor/Pacific County Farm Bureau hope that whatever final decisions are decided, concerning this proposal, that they support all who live and work in the Chehalis Basin.

Sincerely;

Annamarie Willis, President
Grays Harbor/Pacific County Farm Bureau