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Building a dam on the Chehalis is the most expensive and ecologically damaging way to mitigate potential flood damage. Not only would this dam severely degrade habitat for native salmonids, many of which are already endangered in Washington, but it is a massive burden on taxpayers. According to the EIS, "Construction and operation would have significant adverse impacts on spring-run Chinook salmon, fall-run Chinook salmon, coho salmon, and steelhead from degraded habitat, noise, and fewer fish surviving passage around the FRE facility." This passage alone should be enough for the Department of Ecology to reject the proposed dam.