

Facilitation Notes for Chehalis Basin Partnership Workshop

October 23, 2015

Members of the Chehalis Basin Partnership participated in a workshop at their regular October 2015 meeting to explore what the CBP would like to accomplish over the next two to three years.

Participants identified five distinct areas that they would like to focus on achieving. These were:

Sustainability to Move Forward

It is clear to the membership that the CBP needs financial stability to maintain an organization as well to fund projects. Without adequate funding, the CBP will struggle to remain meaningful.

Sustainability to Move Forward	Create a nonprofit & fee-based funding mechanism	Stable funding source through 501(c)3	Money from Flood Authority for CBP participation
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Making the Work Plan Up-to-Date

It has been years since the CBP first developed the Watershed Management Plan and Detailed Implementation Plans. While some issues remain the same, new ones are emerging and may have taken higher priority. Now is the time to revisit both documents to see what from the Plan has been accomplished, what remains to be addressed, and what needs to be added. The plan review process will help freshen the organization's purpose and give clear direction to get things done.

Making the Work Plan Up-to-Date	Re-establish purpose; consider economic constraints	Revisit management plan	Provide a "unified" message, position to steer growth issues
	Provide expertise to inform decisions	Keep plan outcomes alive	Encourage each other to find ways to implement plan elements

Doing the Work Plan

Members recognize that the CBP would be wise to implement projects based on what is outlined in the most recent Detailed Implementation Plan, and to complete projects that began years ago, such as the groundwater model. They also see value in initiating new projects that deal with emerging issues (two examples identified during the meeting were the effects of climate change in the basin, and the effect of growing new types of crops on water quantity). The key to completing these projects is to strengthen collaborative partnerships in the basin.

Doing the Work Plan	Focus more on climate change impacts to the watershed	Identify projects that can be done & stick to implementation	Discussion that leads to results
	Support water banking	Build partnerships to implement projects	Understand how agriculture is changing
	Complete groundwater model	Collaborate on emerging issues	

Engaging the Community

The CBP needs help inform, and be informed by, the community. The CBP has an important role to play in sharing information about watershed issues with citizens. However, it is equally important for the CBP to listen closely to citizens to understand their needs and goals for watershed management. The CBP will need to improve upon its current structure to facilitate this communication process.

Engaging the Community	Branding for the Chehalis Basin – education/outreach	Sounding board for public involvement	Be informed by public
	Support Habitat Work Group	Inform public - Accomplished - Planned Actions	Raising public awareness of issues

Enhancing Communication within the CBP

The CBP provides value to its members through communication and collaboration within the organization itself. Continuing to use meetings for information sharing will allow Partners to identify collaborations and then build watershed related projects together. Monthly information-sharing through meetings will also provide a useful function for communication between separate agencies working in the watershed, and will help inform local governments of state agency studies and proposed policy changes. Along with the task of enhancing internal communication comes a need for clarifying the role of citizens as CBP members.

Enhancing Communication within the CBP	Better communication from state & federal agencies on studies in the watershed	Monthly update to partners	Provides a 1-stop shop for government engagement
	Keeping work moving forward; prevent duplication of quality work	Come to the table	

What would you like to see the Chehalis Basin Partnership accomplish over the next two to three years?*Verbatim notes from the facilitated discussion.

Sustainability to Move Forward	Making the Work Plan Up-to-Date	Engaging the Community	Doing the Work Plan	Enhancing Communication within the CBP
Create a nonprofit & fee-based funding mechanism	Re-establish purpose; consider economic constraints	Branding for the Chehalis Basin – education/outreach	Focus more on climate change impacts to the watershed	Better communication from state & federal agencies on studies in the watershed
Stable funding source through 501(c)3	Revisit management plan	Sounding board for public involvement	Identify projects that can be done & stick to implementation	Monthly update to partners
Money from Flood Authority for CBP participation	Provide a “unified” message, position to steer growth issues	Be informed by public	Discussion that leads to results	Provides a 1-stop shop for government engagement
	Provide expertise to inform decisions	Support Habitat Work Group	Support water banking	Keeping work moving forward; prevent duplication of quality work
	Keep plan outcomes alive	Inform public - Accomplished - Planned Actions	Build partnerships to implement projects	Come to the table
	Encourage each other to find ways to implement plan elements	Raising public awareness of issues	Understand how agriculture is changing	
			Complete groundwater model	
			Collaborate on emerging issues	