

INVENTORY OF WASHINGTON CRM/CWMA GROUPS

March 2008

GROUP NAME: Chehalis River Watershed Aquatic Management Group

YEAR FORMED: 1997

REGION: Chehalis River Watershed, Southwestern Washington

COUNTIES: Grays Harbor, Thurston, Lewis, and Mason

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SIZE (Acres): The Chehalis River drains approximately 2200 square miles

LANDOWNERS (to include estimates of acres or percentage of managed lands):

Private Landowners, Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, Quinault Indian Nation, The Nature Conservancy, US Fish and Wildlife Service – Nisqually National Wildlife Refuge Complex, Washington Department of Natural Resources (2,700 acres Chehalis River Surge Plain NAP; 5,000 acres Elk River NRCA), The Confederated Tribes of the Chehalis.

OTHER PARTICIPANTS, STAKEHOLDERS, PARTNERS:

Thurston Conservation District, The Chehalis River Council, Grays Harbor, Lewis and Thurston County Noxious Weed Boards, Lewis Conversation District, Washington Department of Ecology, Washington State Noxious Weed Control Board, USFWS-Lacey Office

NATURAL RESOURCE ISSUES: I

invasive Aquatic Weed Species. The current focus is on the following noxious weeds – Brazilian elodea (*Egeria densa*), parrotfeather (*Myriophyllum aquaticum*), Purple loosestrife (*Lythrum salicaria*) and 4 knotweed species Japanese (*Polygonum cuspidatum*), giant (*P. sachalinensis*), Himalayan (*P. polystachum*) and Bohemian (*P. bohemicum*). Other weed species that will be added are Phragmites (*Phragmites australis*) and Spartina (*Spartina alterniflora* and *S. densiflora*).

STATUS OF PLAN:

No plan	Help needed	In Process	Not Written
<u>Written</u>	<u>Implemented and functioning</u>		Completed

CWMA STATUS: (Please underline your choices).

Brand new group, potential new group, or resurrected group.

Mission accomplished and disbanded.

Unable to overcome obstacles, disbanded.

Reason?

Plans to regroup?

Self-sufficient and functioning for foreseeable future.

Some need for assistance, or resources need as indicated below.

Moderate need for assistance, as indicated below.
Immediate or major need for assistance or additional resources.

ASSISTANCE OR RESOURCES NEEDED:

Implementation Needs: The primary area where help is needed: Funding for surveys and control work on tributaries and the main stem of the Chehalis River. Capital investments are also needed, to include: boats appropriate to different parts of the river that would allow more effective survey and control.

Facilitation Needs: Not needed

Technical Needs: It's always nice to have technically proficient people add new information periodically. For instance, Toni (last name?) from Portland State University provided some important information to the Brazilian elodea diver removal project on how much of the plant to remove to elicit control. Also, the mention of having someone with GIS expertise to update the maps would be great, although we have self-taught people.

Administrative Needs: Not needed, except for updating/adding weeds to plan. It was suggested that a dedicated CWMA Coordinator for the Chehalis could help with all these activities.

Help to Develop or Produce a Written Plan: Done, although updates and adding additional weeds will take time.

2008 MEETINGS: January 24, 2008

COMMENT: We have been successful at getting additional funding by being organized as a CWMA, but the actual need is much greater than what we are able to accomplish. This is likely due to capacity limitations and of course the size of the problems in the watershed is daunting.

Our meetings need to be scheduled further in advance. We should also meet prior to the field season to coordinate any joint or overlapping efforts.