

RESOLUTION NO. 92-98

WHEREAS, the Chehalis Basin Partnership is a multi-governmental group that shares an interest in sound management and stewardship of the Chehalis River Basin's natural resources; and

WHEREAS, the purpose of the Chehalis Basin Partnership is to designate a planning unit and lead agency to assess and manage the water resources of the basin and to pursue strategies within the basin which include the key elements of flood reduction, fisheries, recreation, water quality and water quantity; and

WHEREAS, Mason County is an active participant in the Chehalis Basin Partnership, and, in partnership with other members, assists in serving in an advisory and informational capacity to coordinate efforts focusing on management of water resources to provide ample supplies for farms, fish, industry, and people (including restoration of health runs of salmon and steel head), flood reduction, water quality improvement, and increase in watershed awareness through education; and

WHEREAS, Lewis County has been recognized by the Chehalis Basin Partnership and by Mason County as the lead agency in pursuing watershed planning grant funding (under ESHB 2514) for Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIAs) 22 and 23, the Chehalis River Watershed; and

WHEREAS, the watershed planning grant for WRIAs 22 and 23 includes an evaluation of fish habitat; and

WHEREAS, the state legislature also passed a salmon enhancement project grant program under ESHB 2496, which may provide funding to designated lead agencies to undertake salmonid habitat restoration activities that address factors limiting to fish; and

WHEREAS, funding efforts can be most effectively utilized when duplication can be eliminated and efforts are coordinated; and

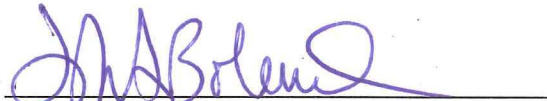
WHEREAS, the Chehalis River watershed (WRIAs 22 and 23, including all of its major tributaries) in the anadromous fish zone will be the target for the development of a restoration plan and specific projects to be implemented under the Salmon Enhancement Grant Program (authorized under ESHB 2496).

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that:

Section 1. The Mason County Board of Commissioners designates Lewis County as the lead governmental entity for the purposes of the Salmon Enhancement Grant.

ADOPTED: 8-25-98

BOARD OF COUNTY COMMISSIONERS
MASON COUNTY, WASHINGTON


John A. Bolender, Chairperson



Cynthia D. Olsen, Commissioner

absent
Mary Jo Cady, Commissioner

ATTEST:


Rebecca S. Rogers, Clerk of the Board

Approved as to Form:


Mike Clift, Chief Deputy Prosecuting Attorney