# Chehalis Basin Partnership & Chehalis Basin Lead Entity for Salmon Recovery

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The Chehalis River Basin provides a rich classroom of learning opportunities close to home for Evergreen students. In recent years, water issues in the basin have become a regional and statewide priority. Whether it’s too much water (I-5 flooding) or too little (summer water right curtailments for farmers), water issues top headlines in the Chehalis and are being worked on by a wide range of citizens, agencies, tribes and scientists.  The Chehalis Basin Lead Entity program helps coordinate salmon recovery projects in the basin, and engages on regional water policy and planning initiatives including the Chehalis Basin Strategy and Streamflow Restoration Act.  In the coming years, unprecedently large-scale efforts are expected to begin on implementing on-the-ground projects that reconnect rivers to their floodplains, enhance summer streamflow, and address water rights.  I would be happy to talk with first year students who can develop a research project over the next several years and put them in touch with experts in their area of interest in the following disciplines: salmon habitat restoration engineering and monitoring; amphibian habitat restoration and monitoring; groundwater/surface water interactions; water rights; social barriers to engaging in natural resource “best management practices”; consensus and decision-making around water issues; forest hydrology; and much more! Hopefully you will consider carrying out your research project in our watershed.