



Cowlitz-Lewis Economic Development District CEDS Action Plan 2013-2014



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Table of Contents

Introduction	5
CLEDD Historic Profile	6
District Map.....	7
2009-2013 Goals and Objectives	8
2012-2013 Notables.....	11
General Demographics	12
Social Demographics.....	16
Educational Demographics	18
Economic Demographics.....	20
Regional and Local Clusters Industries	24
2013-2014 CEDS Committee members	29
2013-2014 CLEDD Board members.....	30



Acknowledgements

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*The **vision** for the Cowlitz Lewis Economic Development District is to achieve economic prosperity while maintaining our rural quality of life.*

*The **mission** of the CLEDD is to promote the creation of family wage jobs; diversification of the economic base; and growth, development and retention of business and industry within the Cowlitz- Lewis County region.*

Introduction

The local governments, non-profit agencies and private representatives in Cowlitz and Lewis Counties comprise the Economic Development District (CLEDD). The District was designated in July 1998. Funding for the CLEDD comes from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) and matching funds through member organizations' in-kind and memberships. The Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments (CWCOG) is the lead agency of the District. This is the final annual report for the five-year Comprehensive Economic Development Strategy of the CLEDD's 2009-2013 Report.

In 2012, CWCOG staff met with Wahkiakum County commissioners to discuss economic development opportunities and connections due to the relationship between Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties. A result from that meeting was Wahkiakum County Commissioners requesting the CLEDD Board members to include Wahkiakum into the boundary. The request was granted by the CLEDD Board in June 2013. The Boundary modification process is currently underway. In January 2013, the CWCOG made a request to EDA for an extension for the five-year CEDS report due to a change in leadership and the potential boundary modification and the request was granted in May 2013. The 2013-2014 CEDS Annual Report reflects the boundary modification to include Wahkiakum County. The District has approved the new regional name to be Southwest Washington Economic Development Commission (SWEDC). The 2013-2014 CEDS Annual Report will refer to the District as CLEDD until final approval is received from the EDA.

Through this designation and funding, the CLEDD members are able to target investments in business and industry infrastructure as well as coordinate business development, infrastructure planning and construction activities. The CLEDD has progressed into a regional organization that seeks new and innovative economic opportunities. Based on a history of timber and natural resource production, the region is seeking new technologies and entrepreneurial opportunities that will provide a skilled educated workforce.

In 2008, the CLEDD Board, the Cowlitz CEDS Committee and the Lewis CEDS Committee defined the CLEDD vision and mission. The CLEDD Board advances these values, along with the goals and objectives, through projects and plans to support the overall regional goal of advancing economic opportunities in Cowlitz and Lewis Counties. In the fall of 2013, the new district, SWEDC, will develop a new vision and mission that incorporates the newly modified district boundary. The following pages identifies the 2009-2013 goals and objectives of the CLEDD. Per the CLEDD board, any EDA grant application must go through a process that includes identifying which goals and objectives the plan or project will be meeting to improve the overall region's economic health. This process is completed through an application process that is available online on the CLEDD website. In addition, all EDA applicants must present their application to the full board for approval before submission.

CLEDD Historic Profile

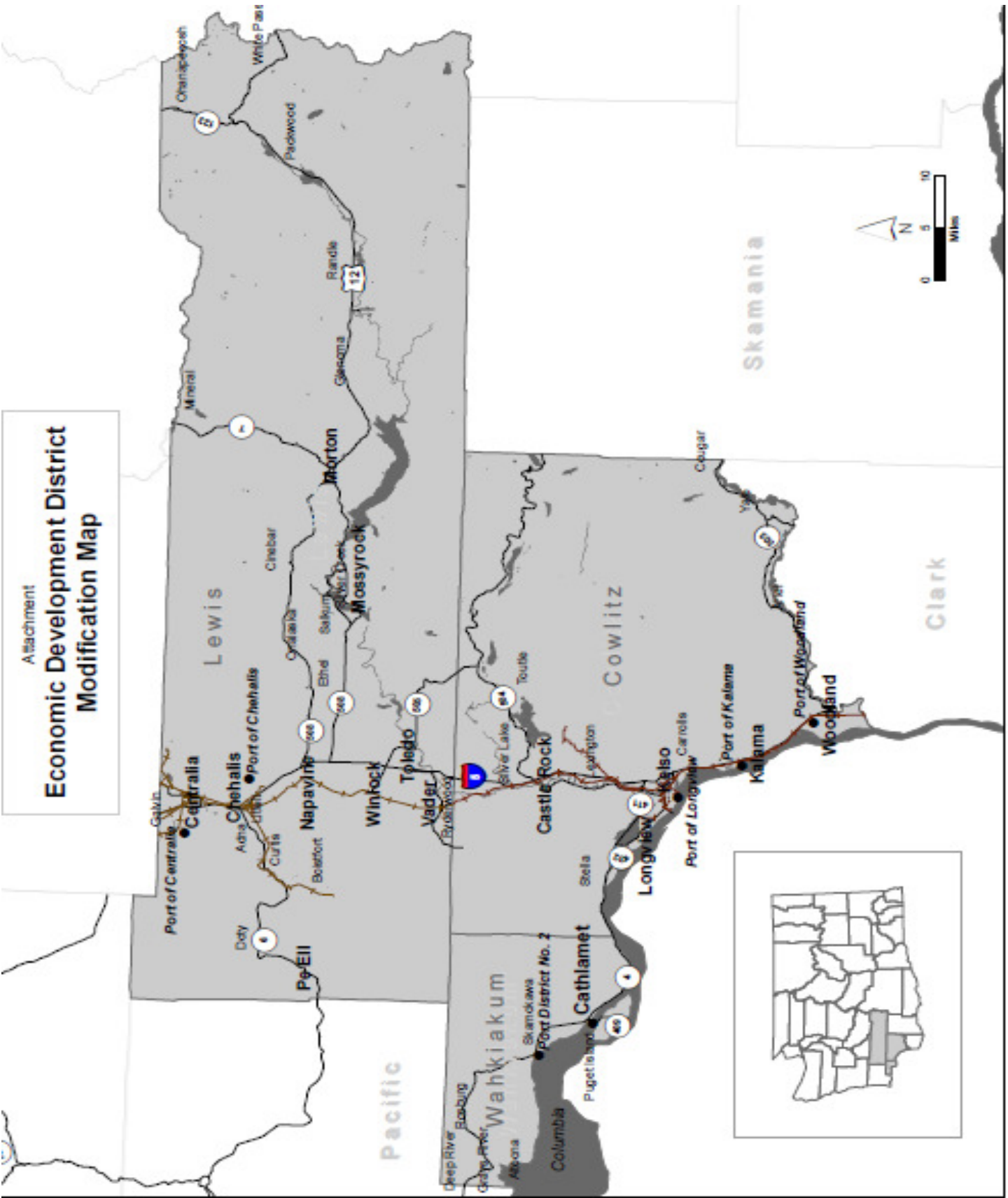
The CLEDD is located in southwest Washington and includes all of Cowlitz and Lewis Counties. As indicated on page 5, the CLEDD boundary is undergoing a modification process to include Wahkiakum County. This district will add an additional 264 square miles to the district for a total area of 3,882 square miles. A map of the three counties within the district boundary is on [page 7](#) of this report. The CLEDD includes 15 incorporated cities; 9 in Lewis, 1 in Wahkiakum and 5 in Cowlitz and are all members of the CLEDD board. In addition, there are a total of seven special port districts: Port 1 and 2 in Wahkiakum County, the Ports of Longview, Kalama and Woodland in Cowlitz County, and Ports of Chehalis and Centralia in Lewis County. All but one port is a member of the CLEDD board. Cowlitz Indian tribe is the only federally-recognized tribe within the District and is a member of the CLEDD board. There are three Washington State recognized Association of Development Organizations (ADOs) within the region, the Cowlitz Economic Development Council, Lewis County Economic Development Council and the Wahkiakum Chamber of Commerce/Economic Development Council.

There are many unincorporated communities throughout the region. Those in Lewis county include Adna, Cinebar, Ethel, Galvin, Glenoma, Mineral, Onalaska, Packwood, Randle and Salkum. Unincorporated communities in Cowlitz County include Ariel, Cougar, Lexington, Rose Valley, Ryderwood and Toutle. In Wahkiakum County, those communities include Altoona, Brookfield, Dahlia, Deep River, Elochoman Valley, Grays River, Pillar Rock, Puget Island, Rosburg and Skomakowa.

The 2010 Census required a redistricting effort in Washington State changing the legislative districts. As a result, the CLEDD is within the 14 and 20th districts. The 14th legislative district includes Senator Brian Hatfield, Representative Dean Takko and Representative Brian Blake. The 20th legislative district includes Senator John Braun and Representative Richard DeBolt and Representative Ed Orcutt. The CLEDD remains in the 3rd District within the federal level, represented by Representative Jaime Herrera-Beutler. Washington State's Senators include Senator Patty Murray and Senator Maria Cantwell. In addition, Washington State elected a new governor this past election, Governor. Jay Inslee.

The region's economic opportunities have remained close to its historic roots pertaining to trade. Starting back in the 1790s, the fur trade led explorers to the region expanding to timber and other natural resources through the decades, including fishing, agriculture and mining. Yet, the timber industry remains the major cluster throughout the region. Over the last two decades, manufacturing has provided diversification and some stabilization of the employment base. The increase of global trade has increased the export potential at both the Port of Kalama and Longview with logs, grain and other bulk materials.

The region's location along major transportation connection routes provides future economic opportunities for expanding into the import/export global trade arena. Interstate 5 runs through the heart of Lewis and Cowlitz Counties and State Route 4 runs from Cowlitz County through Wahkiakum County to the coast. Cowlitz and Wahkiakum Counties sit along the Columbia River with the Port of Longview, the state's third largest port, being the first port of call from the Pacific Ocean. The region is served by Burlington Northern Santa Fe and is shared by Union Pacific. There are two regional airports: the Southwest Washington Regional Airport in Kelso and the Chehalis-Centralia Airport in Lewis County. There are several smaller airports as well in Cathlamet, Woodland, Toledo, Morton and Packwood.



Goal 1: To provide economic opportunities, diversification and retention for business development in the region.

Objectives

1. Expand and further develop existing port facilities and industrial sites.
2. Attract a range of businesses that support or enhance the existing industrial base to reduce cyclical swings of traditional industry clusters.
3. Direct new and expanding businesses to The Lending Network and Longview Revolving Loan Fund for potential low interest, flexible funding sources.
4. Encourage start-up and existing businesses to seek assistance through Economic Development District partnerships including, but not limited to EDCs, SBDCs, the EDA and SBA.
5. Promote streamlined permit processes to include online permitting options and clear, consistent development regulations.
6. Identify and maintain a regional inventory of areas suitable for future industrial development.
7. Encourage the creation of a regional identification for Cowlitz and Lewis Counties.

Goal 2: To develop a regional work force to support economic growth, diversity, and family wage jobs.

Objectives

1. Employ local, state, and federal governmental, non-governmental, and private sector programs, resources, and funding sources to approach immediate and long-term economic needs.
2. Maintain and strengthen existing economic development organizations and partnerships between public, private and non-profit sectors.
3. Build partnerships between local, state, and federal agencies to affect long-term economic development and diversification.

Goal 3: To emphasize regionalism between Cowlitz and Lewis Counties that supports quality of life issues.

Objectives

1. Support programs for the elderly, youth and those in poverty in the region.
2. Assure affordable housing opportunities in close proximity to employment areas and public services.
3. Encourage educational opportunities for all residents in the region.
4. Promote cultural amenities, not limited to the arts, theatre, or historical locations and informational centers.
5. Support and encourage health care and substance abuse opportunities to the region.

Goal 4: To provide adequate public services, facilities, and infrastructure to support and complement economic growth.

Objectives

1. Identify opportunities to improve telecommunications for global networking, communications and regional competitiveness.
2. Work to improve available services and infrastructure to expand business development potential.
3. Consider access and capacity improvements to I-5 interchanges and all State Routes that support long-term growth.
4. Evaluate opportunities, and where appropriate, implement expansion of aviation facilities serving the region.
5. Improve the capacity of existing waste water and water systems to meet present and future industrial, commercial and general population growth.
6. Coordinate, where opportunities exist, regional planning efforts for sewer, water, storm drainage, energy, solid waste, and transportation with land use planning.
7. Capitalize on opportunities to attract major public facilities that generate revenue and provide secure, long-term employment.
8. Focus development and job creation to take advantage of the I-5 corridor capacity.

Goal 5: To develop a regional work force to support economic growth, diversity, and family wage jobs.

Objectives

1. Encourage schools, training centers, skills centers and employers to develop opportunities that benefit employees through workforce development, re-training, internships, apprenticeships, entrepreneur education, and training to assist re-entering and new workforce employees.
2. Encourage work opportunities for women, minorities and the elderly.
3. Encourage improved and expanded day-care centers, particularly twenty-four hour care facilities, in close proximity to employment centers to assist persons in securing and holding employment.
4. Encourage adult education at high schools, community-based organizations, and community colleges.
5. Encourage state agencies to continue financial support for persons entering full employment from welfare or vocational rehabilitation/training programs.
6. Encourage or expand opportunities and networks in education, languages, job training and search services to assist immigrants and minority groups in the region.
7. Support K-12 programs that enhance the employability of students in the future.

Goal 6: To increase the region's recreation and tourism activities, and destinations for the arts, markets, and unique shopping experiences.

Objectives

1. Market the region's natural beauty and recreational potential.
2. Capitalize on the region's rivers, lakes, other natural resources, and tourism-related facilities.
3. Encourage and enhance visitor information and interpretive facilities.
4. Support community events that provide a variety of economic opportunities consistent with the local character and capacity to provide public services.
5. Promote community and downtown revitalization to assist in tourism and marketing opportunities.
6. Promote development of outdoor recreation facilities and activities such as parks and trails.
7. Support and market regional arts, festivals, theatre and other cultural facilities and events.
8. Support regional athletic opportunities.

Goal 7: To maintain and develop new opportunities for renewable and natural resource industries to provide a growing and sustainable economic base.

Objectives

1. Promote opportunities for renewable, alternative energy industries.
2. Encourage workforce training and development programs to expand "green collar" job skills.
3. Support value-added activities that diversify economic benefits for natural resource industries.
4. Focus on retaining renewable and natural resource industrial jobs.

Goal 8: To reduce impacts of flooding on industry and business.

Objectives

1. Provide assistance and seek funding opportunities to businesses impacted by storm and flood damage.
2. Identify local, regional, state and federal programs to assist business owners in flood recovery.
3. Refine/further develop options for structural solutions for businesses in flood prone locations.
4. Assist and support efforts to create a regional Flood Mitigation District.
5. Evaluate a variety of regulatory, non-regulatory and infrastructure projects for flood mitigation and reduction efforts.
6. Work with federal, state and local leaders for dike stabilization and levee certification.

2012-2013 Notables

- Port of Chehalis Incubator Study completed leading to partnership with University of Washington's Center for Commercialization. Initial incubator assessment of Thin Film Application does not fit finding scale production more suitable.
- City and Port of Woodland complete Schurman Way/Guild Road infrastructure improvements. The Port of Woodland outlined in 2012 Strategic Plan to develop an incubator park along Guild Road to focus on Outdoor Recreational Light Manufacturing.
- Port of Longview completed their 2012 Strategic Plan that focuses on international export, outdoor recreation and job creation.
- Port of Kalama is in the process of annexing additional land for the development of the Spencer Creek Business Center.
- City of Longview completed its downtown design plan.
- Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments and the Cowlitz-Lewis Economic Development District boards move to joint sessions to address long-range planning issues including infrastructure, permitting, workforce development and education.
- Port of Woodland completed its Boat Launch feasibility study and will begin design and engineering for the site in 2013.
- Lower Columbia College is working with Washington State university and Eastern Washington University to expand programs to include Business Administration and Nursing Bachelors Degree programs.
- Centralia College has launched its Bachelors in Applied Science in Applied Management program that will enhance its Center of Excellence in Energy within the State of Washington.
- The City of Centralia and the Lewis County Economic Development Council are working on a new development dubbed "Centralia Station" of 52 acres of available land.
- The Centralia Public Facilities District is moving ahead on the first phase of the Sports Complex
- Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council completes 5 county industry cluster study.
- City of Woodland received \$2 million for the SEPA/NEPA study for the Scott Avenue Crossing Project.
- Industrial Park at Trans Alta received \$2.8 million from EDA for the first phase of infrastructure improvements.
- Port of Kalama Cameron Glass factory reopened by new investor, Bennu Glass, bringing 90 family wage jobs back to the community.
- Port of Kalama is in the process of bringing Veresen Natural Gas Plant into the region, a \$400 million capital investment.
- EGT ribbon cutting at the Port of Longview increases the Port's grain export business.
- Cowlitz County business leaders, community and labor groups, school superintendents, workforce development leaders are working together to address educational attainment, soft and hard skill concerns and workforce training options.
- Cowlitz County partners met in November to discuss the "silver tsunami" that is affecting the region, let alone the nation. Areas of focus included health and wellness, workforce development, transportation, housing and community engagement.
- Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments staff present demographic data to local school districts, Cowlitz County Department heads, Cowlitz economic Development Council and the CWCOG board about the decrease of families, particularly children in the region and the increase of baby boomers to the region. The presentations have been a launching pad for discussions pertaining to social service funding, revenue to the counties and cities in the future and review of school district's facilities.
- City of Toledo receiving funding for a wastewater treatment facility.

General Demographics

The following data figures and sets are a snapshot of demographic patterns found within the CLEDD in 2011 based on 2010 U.S. Census and 2005-2009 American Community Survey data. Information conveying characteristics of population, housing, and personal income trends and forecasts are organized by county. Key issues pertaining to the demographics include the aging population as well as declining population.

County Statistics

	Cowlitz	Lewis	Wahkiakum	District
Population	102,478	75901	3991	182,370
Pop 2010	102,410	75455	3978	181,843
% Change	0.10%	0.6	0.3	
Total Households	39,793	29586	1648	71,027
Average Household Size	2.52	2.51	2.36	
Total Household Units	43,607	33759	1958	79,324
Occupied Housing Units	39,793	29586	1648	71,027
Owner Occupied Units	26782	20941	1276	48999
Rental Occupied Units	13,011	8645	372	22,028
Homeowner Vacancy Rate	1.90	2.6	4.5	
Rental Vacancy Rate	5.30	8.3	0	

Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey Data

Incorporated Cities Statistics

City	Population	Households	Total Housing Units	Total Vacant Units	Average Household Size	Average Age
Castle Rock	1982	784	863	79	2.53	39.3
Cathlamet	532	258	296	38	1.9	52.9
Centralia	16336	6640	7265	625	2.41	34.8
Chehalis	7259	2868	3131	263	2.36	33.5
Kalama	2344	967	1070	103	2.42	41.4
Kelso	11925	4720	5139	419	2.52	34.6
Longview	36648	15281	16380	1099	2.34	39.6
Morton	1126	461	535	74	2.31	46.3
Mossyrock	759	272	302	30	2.79	32.9
Napavine	1766	609	662	53	2.9	32.9
Pe Ell	632	259	290	31	2.44	40
Toledo	725	274	304	30	2.65	35.2
Vader	621	228	258	30	2.72	41.4
Winlock	1339	475	535	60	2.79	34
Woodland	5509	1965	2108	143	2.77	32.9

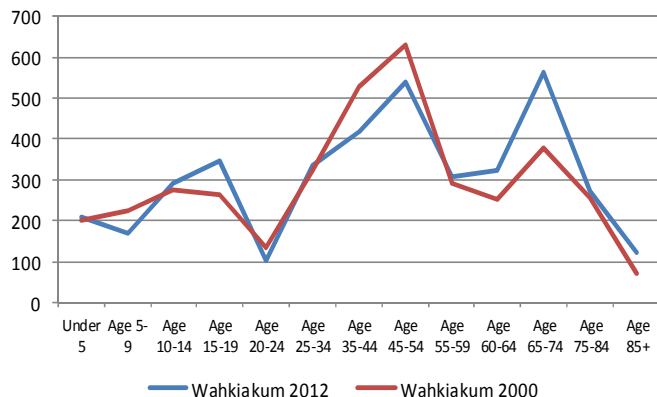
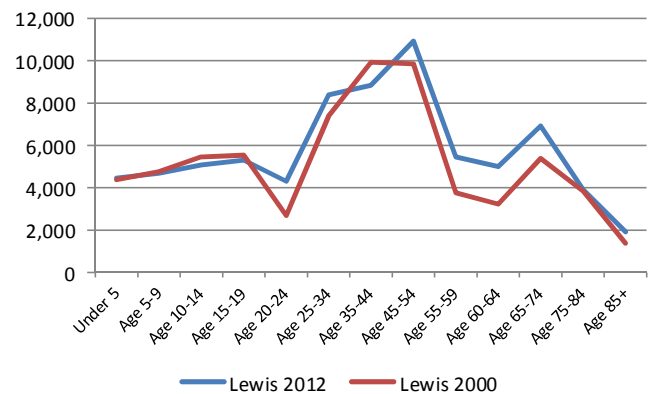
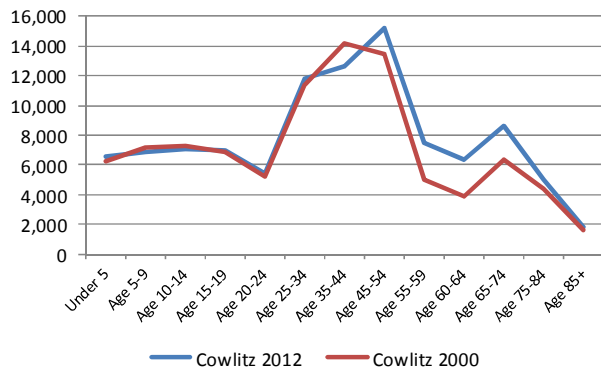
Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey Data

An Aging Population

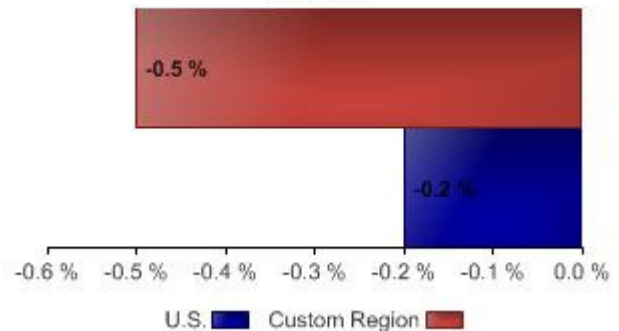
Age	Cowlitz 2012	Cowlitz 2000	Change in pop	Lewis 2012	Lewis 2000	Change in pop	Wahkiakum 2012	Wahkiakum 2000	Change in pop
Under 5	6,614	6,203	411	4,465	4397	68	209	202	7
Age 5-9	6,889	7,135	-246	4,669	4752	-83	168	224	-56
Age 10-14	7,064	7,266	-202	5,060	5445	-385	290	274	16
Age 15-19	6,955	6,824	131	5,320	5555	-235	348	265	83
Age 20-24	5,443	5,212	231	4,318	2673	1,645	101	133	-32
Age 25-34	11,763	11,427	336	8,377	7388	989	334	321	13
Age 35-44	12,608	14,128	-1,520	8,840	9921	-1,081	418	527	-109
Age 45-54	15,202	13,476	1,726	10,914	9830	1,084	538	630	-92
Age 55-59	7,474	4,999	2,475	5,491	3739	1,752	309	290	19
Age 60-64	6,393	3,910	2,483	4,965	3233	1,732	322	252	70
Age 65-74	8,594	6,354	2,240	6,956	5418	1,538	565	379	186
Age 75-84	5,049	4,386	663	3,912	3854	58	270	257	13
Age 85+	1,853	1,628	225	1,880	1395	485	122	70	52

Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey Data

County Population Reflected Between 2000 Census and 2012 ACS



Percent Change in Young Adult Population, 1997-2009



Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey; STATS America

Changes in Race Reflecting National Trends

The three counties have not had a major change in racial diversification like the rest of the nation. There has been an increase in Hispanic populations throughout the region, though small, but reflecting the national trend of minorities into predominately white rural regions. Cowlitz and Lewis Counties have experienced increases in other minorities as well.

Cowlitz				
Race	2012 ACS	2000 Census	Change	% change
White	96,694	87,619	9,075	0.09
Black/ African American	1,236	756	480	0.39
American Indian	3,764	2,796	968	0.26
Asian/ Pacific Islander	2,879	1,909	970	0.34
Other	1,793	2,425	-632	-0.35
Hispanic	7,686	4,231	3,455	0.45

Source: US Census ACS Data

Lewis				
Race	2012 ACS	2000 Census	Change	% change
White	71,697	65,006	6,691	0.09
Black/ African American	815	412	403	0.49
American Indian	2,488	1,505	983	0.40
Asian/ Pacific Islander	1,033	894	139	0.13
Other	2,103	2,175	-72	-0.03
Hispanic	5,386	3,684	1,702	0.32

Source: US Census ACS Data

Wahkiakum				
Race	2012 ACS	2000 Census	Change	% change
White	3,791	3,669	122	0.03
Black/ African American	11	13	-2	-0.18
American Indian	16	133	-117	-7.31
Asian/ Pacific Islander	9	38	-29	-3.22
Other	1	69	-68	-68.00
Hispanic	102	98	4	0.04

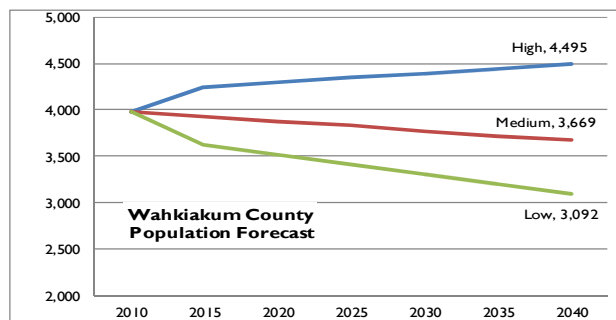
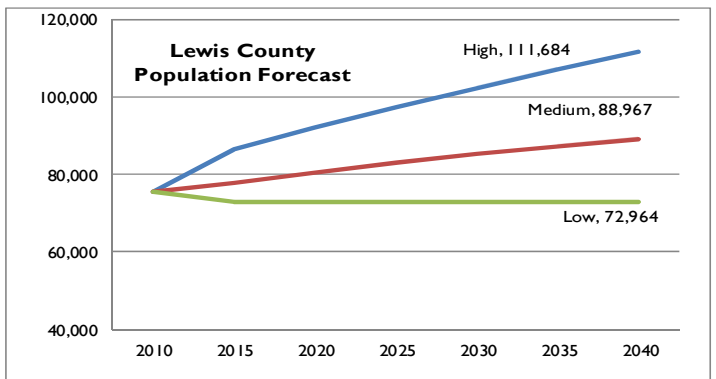
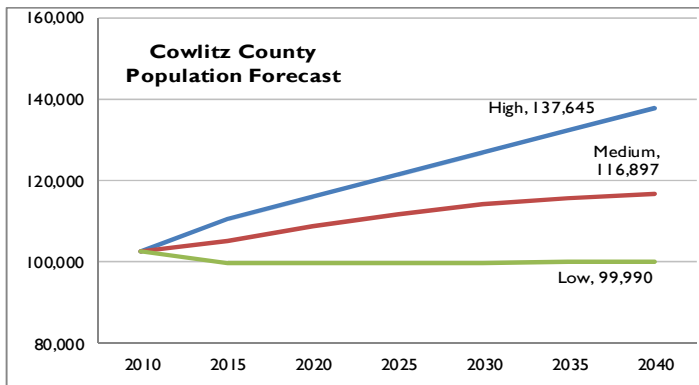
Source: US Census ACS Data

County	Average Net Internal Migration Rate per 10,000 Residents
Cowlitz, WA	55.4
Lewis, WA	58.9
Wahkiakum, WA	106.2

The population growth has historically been based on in-migration rather than birth rates. Yet, the population has flat lined and in some areas, decreased. Washington State Office of Financial Management (OFM) has revised their population growth forecast for the region. Overall, the counties original low population estimates are now forecasted at high levels, with low estimates indicating population loss. This forecast affects the regional economic image as a declining and aging population. It will be imperative that the region begin to focus on increasing job opportunities to increase the in-migration, including minority populations.

District			
	Average Annual Growth in Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI)	PCPI, 1997	PCPI, 2008
District	3.7%	\$20,586	\$30,884
U.S.	4.3%	\$25,654	\$40,947

Counties			
County	Average Annual Growth in Per Capita Personal Income (PCPI)	PCPI, 1997	PCPI, 2008
Cowlitz	3.7%	\$20,862	\$31,369
Lewis	3.6%	\$20,280	\$30,151
Wahkiakum	4.6%	\$19,405	\$32,256



Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management

Social Demographics

The median income of the three counties is substantially lower than Washington State’s median income of \$58,890 for 2011. In addition, Woodland provides a significant bump to Cowlitz County, serving as a bedroom community to the Vancouver-Portland metro region. Overall, the region is seeing an increase in poverty rates which has profoundly affected the school districts and children receiving free and reduced meals. One in four children in Kelso and Toledo are in poverty and close to one in five seniors in Centralia, Mossyrock and Woodland are in poverty. The table below identifies those cities with poverty levels above the national average and are marked in red. Every community with the exception of Woodland, is below the U.S. median household income level. Finally, every community is below the national per capita within the three counties.

City/County	Median Income	Per Capita	Poverty All People	Poverty >18 yo	Poverty <65 yo
Cowlitz County	\$46,461	\$23,575	17.5%	25.5%	7.0%
Lewis County	\$44,373	\$22,297	13.5%	17.9%	8.5%
Wahkiakum County	\$41,149	\$21,455	16.6%	21.0%	8.2%
Cathlamet	\$39,853	\$22,332	15.0%	19.8%	12.0%
Castle Rock	\$33,424	\$19,286	20.3%	28.1%	16.3%
Centralia	\$35,456	\$18,859	21.4%	28.1%	17.6%
Chehalis	\$43,205	\$21,220	10.2%	15.9%	10.0%
Kalama	\$39,856	\$21,497	8.1%	9.7%	1.0%
Kelso	\$34,391	\$18,411	27.3%	40.7%	7.7%
Longview	\$40,226	\$23,159	22.3%	32.7%	7.9%
Morton	\$36,364	\$18,804	8.6%	10.8%	1.1%
Mossyrock	\$42,750	\$16,604	21.2%	22.8%	19.0%
Napavine	\$50,536	\$21,482	8.4%	14.4%	9.0%
Pe Ell	\$33,281	\$20,223	11.5%	24.2%	3.6%
Toledo	\$39,167	\$20,889	23.4%	48.8%	3.0%
Vader	\$52,083	\$19,659	13.1%	21.6%	0.0%
Winlock	\$39,554	\$16,644	17.0%	24.0%	8.3%
Woodland	\$58,413	\$20,288	16.9%	21.7%	28.4%
Washington State	\$58,890	\$30,481	12.5%	16.5%	7.8%
United States	\$52,762	\$27,915	14.3%	20.0%	9.4%

Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey Data

On the opposite page, the regional self-sufficiency standards for each of the counties is identified. In comparison with the median household income, with two working adults and a child, for instance, an infant, would not meet the self-sufficiency standards. This results to more “working poor” within the populations and limiting their opportunities.

Overall, almost every single community within the region under the median household income, fails to meet the standards of a typical family household. This is a dramatic difference when comparing the state of Washington’s median household income to the self-sufficiency standards or that to the United States. Since the last CEDS in 2009, the poverty rate has increased for children and elderly and median household incomes have become stagnant. Without significant economic opportunities, these statistics will become more dire.

Self Sufficiency Standard per County

The Self-Sufficiency Standard defines the amount of income necessary to meet basic needs (including taxes) without public subsidies (e.g., public housing, food stamps, Medicaid or child care) and without private/informal assistance. The Self-Sufficiency Standard is based on all major budget items faced by working adults, not just food. These basic needs include housing, child care, food, health care, transportation, taxes, and miscellaneous costs, unlike the USDA Poverty Rate, which is illustrated on the following page.

The Self-Sufficiency Standard calculates the most recent local or regional costs of each basic need. Accounting for regional or local variation is particularly important for housing because housing costs vary widely. The Self-Sufficiency Standard costs varies by age groups of children (infants, preschoolers, school agers, and teenagers). This is especially important for child care, which varies substantially by age. The Self-Sufficiency Standard reflects modern family practices, and assumes that all adults (whether married or single) work full-time. The Standard includes the employment-related costs of transportation, taxes, and child care (when needed). The Self-Sufficiency Standard includes the net effect of federal and state taxes and tax credits, as well as any local taxes and tax credits. Below is a snapshot of each of the District’s three counties and the cost-burden to a typical household. The chart below is only a few examples of the data available.

	Adult	Adult + Infant	Adult + preschooler	Adult + school age	Adult + teenager	2 Adults*	2 Adults*+ Infant	2 Adults* + preschooler	2 Adults* + school age	2 Adults* + teenager
Self-Sufficiency Wage: Lewis County										
Hourly	\$8.67	\$15.59	\$15.06	\$13.55	\$11.39	\$6.95	\$9.60	\$9.34	\$8.63	\$7.51
Monthly	\$1,526	\$2,743	\$2,651	\$2,384	\$2,004	\$2,446	\$3,381	\$3,289	\$3,038	\$2,644
Annual	\$18,317	\$32,921	\$31,814	\$28,610	\$24,047	\$29,357	\$40,569	\$39,472	\$36,453	\$31,727
Self-Sufficiency Wage: Cowlitz County										
Hourly	\$8.57	\$15.71	\$15.18	\$13.19	\$11.00	\$6.92	\$9.68	\$9.42	\$8.48	\$7.34
Monthly	\$1,508	\$2,765	\$2,672	\$2,321	\$1,936	\$2,436	\$3,406	\$3,317	\$2,986	\$2,584
Annual	\$18,101	\$33,176	\$32,062	\$27,856	\$23,235	\$29,227	\$40,871	\$39,800	\$35,831	\$31,005
Self-Sufficiency Wage: Wahkiakum County										
Hourly	\$8.54	\$15.71	\$13.71	\$12.32	\$11.00	\$6.90	\$9.67	\$8.74	\$8.04	\$7.34
Monthly	\$1,503	\$2,764	\$2,412	\$2,169	\$1,936	\$2,429	\$3,404	\$3,075	\$2,832	\$2,582
Annual	\$18,034	\$33,171	\$28,949	\$26,028	\$23,233	\$29,150	\$40,850	\$36,899	\$33,980	\$30,988

Source: Center for Women’s Welfare www.selfsufficiencystandard.org/pubs.html

Educational Demographics

Educational attainment is a good indicator for quality of place and potential business opportunities. The region, as a whole, is well above national levels for Associate Degree attainment but falls considerably short for those receiving a Bachelor's Degree or more. The two community colleges in the region, Centralia College in Lewis County and Lower Columbia College in Cowlitz County, have made significant changes in their course offerings in the last two years. Both colleges are partnering with four-year universities to offer Bachelor's degrees. Two of the desired outcomes through these advancements is to decrease leakage of younger populations out of the region and to attract industries to locate within the region by providing a highly skilled and educated workforce. In addition to these improvements, there are regional discussions on soft skill development for high school students to be more prepared for their future, whether it be college, trade schools, or the workforce.

Educational Attainment 2000 Census

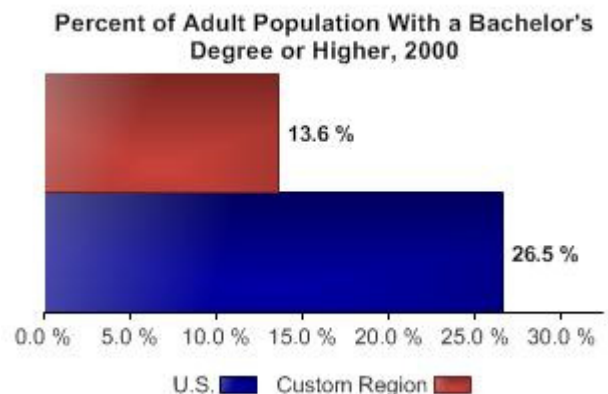
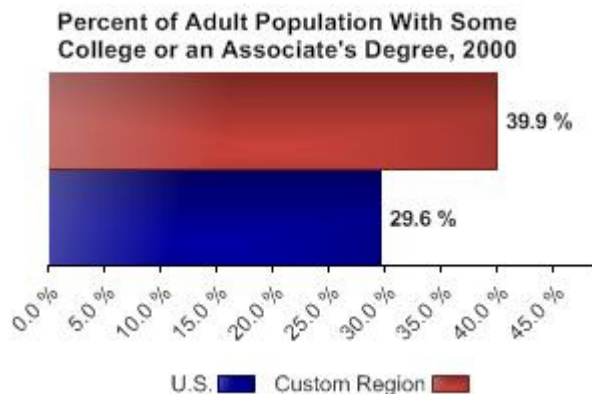
	Cowlitz	Lewis	Wahkiakum
Less than 9th grade	2,450	2,365	102
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	7,710	6,360	327
High school graduate (includes equivalency)	19,760	14,770	873
Some college, no degree	17,396	12,031	846
Associate degree	5,023	3,554	166
Bachelor's degree	5,048	3,477	260
Graduate or professional degree	2,968	2,300	141

Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey Data

Educational Attainment 2007-2011 ACS

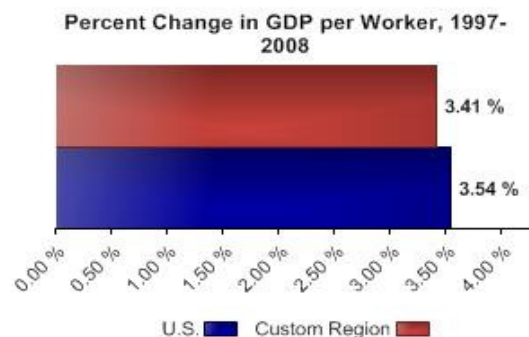
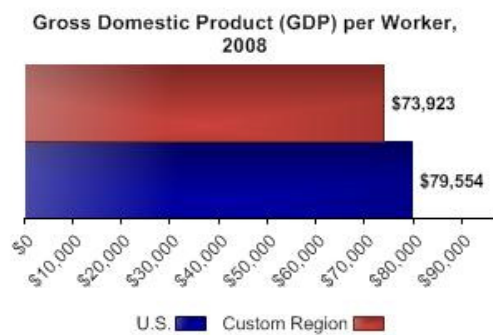
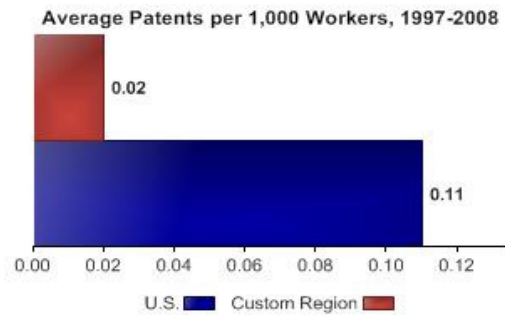
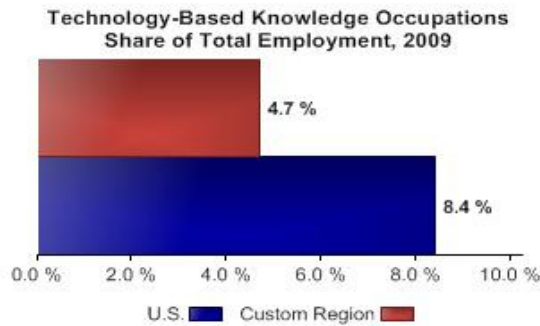
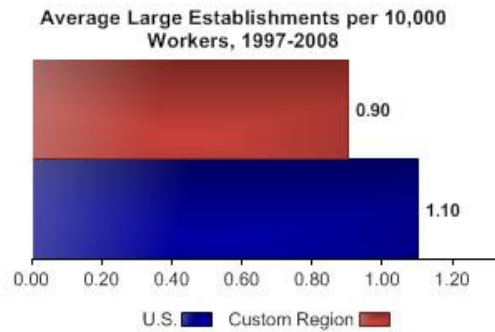
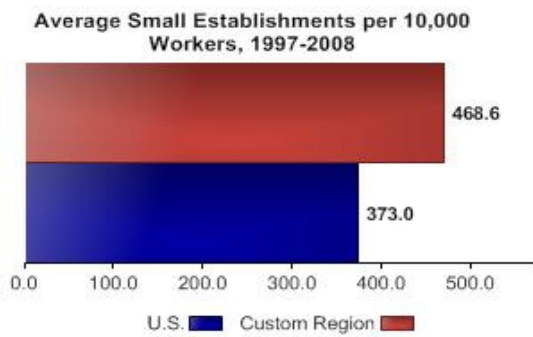
	Cowlitz	Lewis	Wahkiakum
Less than 9th grade	2,669	2,099	82
9th to 12th grade, no diploma	6,657	5,315	167
High school graduate (including equivalency)	20,831	16,526	947
Some college, no degree	21,238	14,956	969
Associates Degree	7,216	4,763	288
Bachelors Degree	6,662	4,665	234
Graduate or professional degree	3,663	3,011	199

Source: U.S. Census American Community Survey Data



Source: STATS America

The regional business sector is predominately small businesses that have historically been centered around three sectors: natural forest production, manufacturing and health care. In Cowlitz and Lewis counties, the top employer for each is the regional hospital. Natural forest production is the base sector and backbone of each of the counties but historically unstable, especially in the 2008 recession. Each of the counties lost significant jobs and businesses in this sector but recently, the pendulum is beginning to turn more positive. In addition, manufacturing has become more diverse throughout the region, providing a stable diverse industry sector. In 2013, the Port of Longview became the third largest port in Washington state due to the exporting of raw materials including grain and logs. Each of the ports continue to build upon their base with the Port of Chehalis moving forward with a manufacturing incubator and the Port of Woodland studying the possibility of an outdoor recreation manufacturing incubator. Both of these opportunities may increase the number of small business establishments in the region, as well as the number of patents that may be submitted based on new technologies and products.



Economic Demographics

Over the last decade, the three counties within the CLEDD have lost a gross 2,700 jobs and a majority of these come from the manufacturing sector. Gains are spread out but significant jumps have been made in wholesale trade and transportation and warehousing. Major employers in the region still remain within the health care and natural resource production sectors.

	District 2001	District 2011	District Change
Manufacturing	11,860	9,493	-2,367
Government and government enterprises	11,332	11,429	97
Retail trade	10,269	10,107	-162
Health care and social assistance	8,563	9,151	588
Accommodation and food services	5,394	5,277	-117
Construction	5,382	4,358	-1,024
Other services, except public administration	4,880	4,876	-4
Forestry, fishing, and related activities	3,209	2,816	-393
Administrative and waste management services	2,618	2,824	206
Professional, scientific, and technical services	2,254	2,539	285
Transportation and warehousing	2,077	3,158	1,081
Finance and insurance	2,077	2,340	263
Real estate and rental and leasing	1,884	2,616	732
Arts, entertainment, and recreation	1,168	1,238	70
Mining	850	508	-342
Information	831	700	-131
Wholesale trade	785	2,101	1,316
Educational services	563	715	152
Utilities	260	400	140
Management of companies and enterprises	204	82	-122

Source: STATS America; Washington State Employment Securities Department



Annual Unemployment Rate

	Wahkiakum	Cowlitz	Lewis
2003	9.8	10	9.4
2004	7.8	8.5	8.3
2005	7.3	7.2	7.6
2006	6.6	6.5	6.9
2007	6.6	6.3	7.1
2008	7.3	8.2	8.3
2009	14.4	13.4	13.2
2010	14.1	13	13.8
2011	13	12	13.4
2012	12.2	10.9	12.4

Date	District	WA State	U.S.
Jul-11	11.8%	9.0%	9.3%
Aug-11	12.5%	9.0%	9.1%
Sep-11	11.7%	8.6%	8.8%
Oct-11	11.4%	8.5%	8.5%
Nov-11	11.7%	8.5%	8.2%
Dec-11	12.3%	8.7%	8.3%
Jan-12	12.9%	9.3%	8.8%
Feb-12	13.0%	9.3%	8.7%
Mar-12	12.8%	8.9%	8.4%
Apr-12	11.5%	8.0%	7.7%
May-12	11.6%	8.3%	7.9%
Jun-12	11.4%	8.3%	8.4%
Jul-12	11.4%	8.3%	8.6%
Aug-12	11.5%	8.1%	8.2%
Sep-12	10.5%	7.4%	7.6%
Oct-12	10.3%	7.2%	7.5%
Nov-12	10.4%	7.2%	7.4%
Dec-12	10.9%	7.6%	7.6%
Jan-13	12.4%	8.5%	8.5%
Feb-13	12.5%	8.2%	8.1%
Mar-13	11.7%	7.2%	7.6%
Apr-13	10.3%	6.5%	7.1%
May-13	10.6%	6.6%	7.3%
Jun-13	10.9%	7.0%	7.8%
24-month Average	11.6%	8.1%	8.1%

Source: Washington State Employment Securities Department

Unemployment Still Stubborn

The regional unemployment rate continues to stay considerably higher than the rest of the state and national average. The 24-month unemployment rate for the District is 11.6%.



The forecast projections for Southwest Washington (that includes Cowlitz and Wahkiakum as well as Clark counties) prepared by the Washington State Employment Securities Department indicate slow growth between 2012 Quarter 2 and 2014 Quarter 2. Overall, the region will see total nonfarm job growth at 1.9%. There are some industries with modest growth:

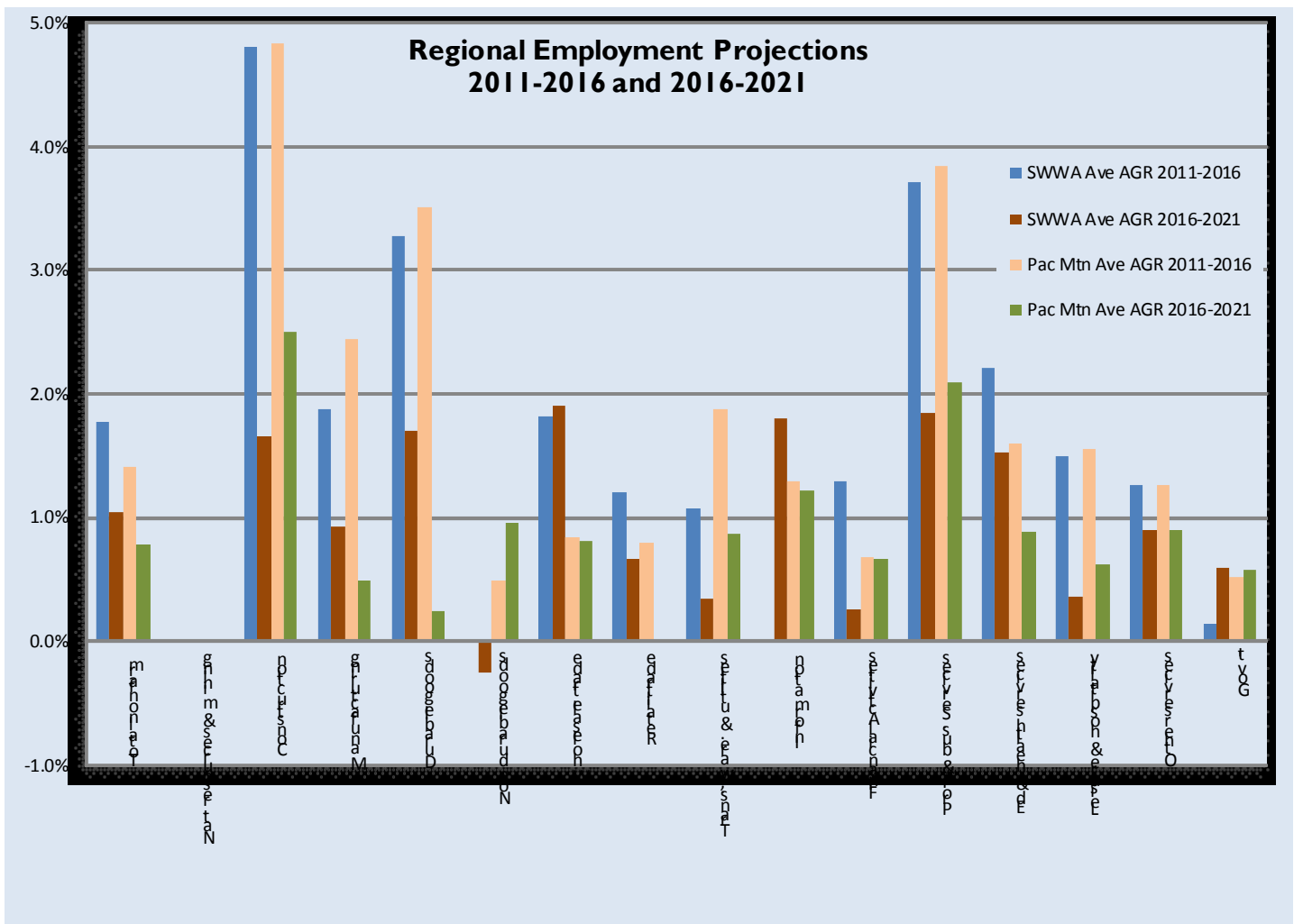
- Natural Resource and Mining up 5.4%
- Construction up 4.2%
- Fabricated Metal Product Manufacturing up 6.5%
- Machinery Manufacturing up 5.7%
- Wood Product Manufacturing up 3.8%
- Professional and Business Services up 3.8%
- Education and Health Services up 2.5%

Yet, many more industries remain static:

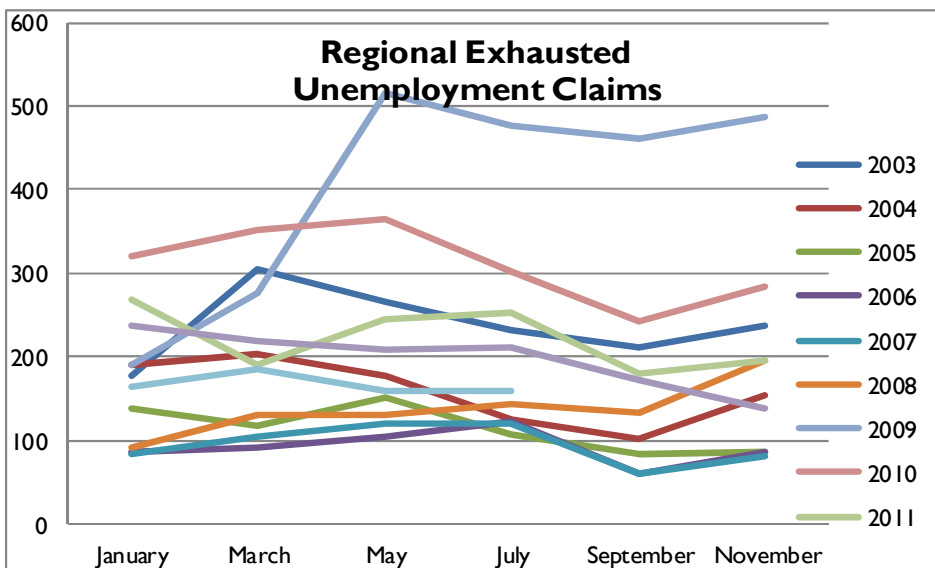
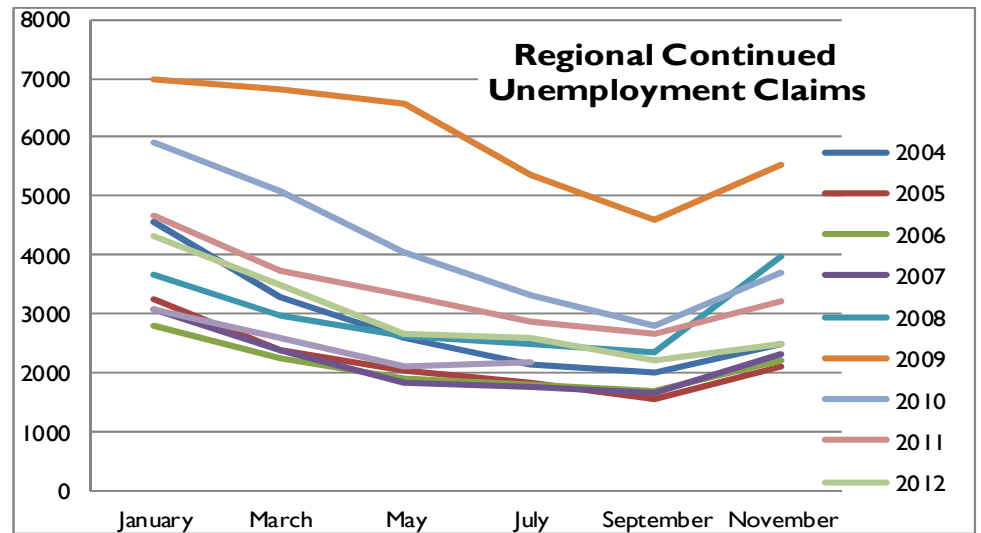
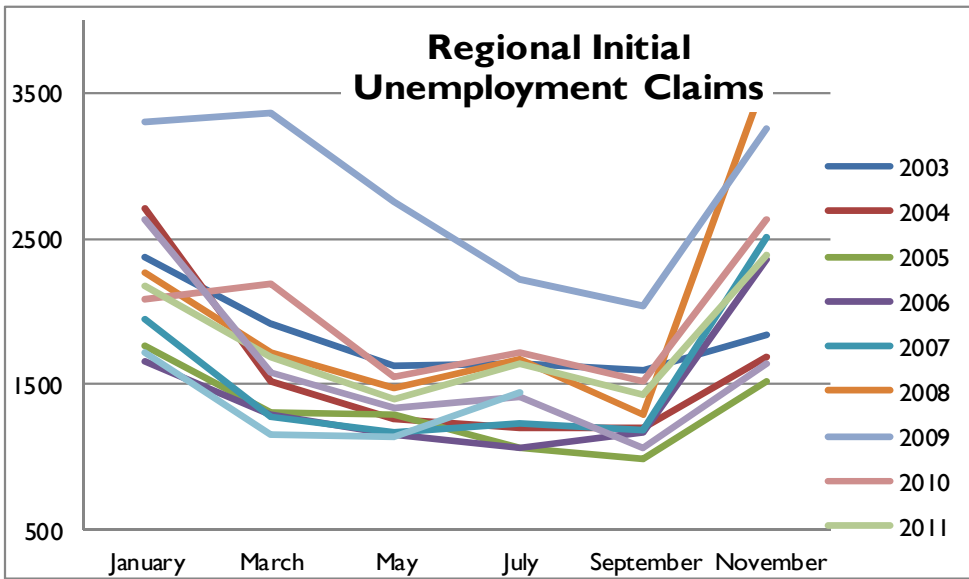
- Wholesale Trade up 1.3%
- Retail Trade up 1.8%
- Information up 1.7%
- Financial Services 1.9%
- Leisure and Hospitality up 1.6%
- Transportation, Warehousing and utilities 0.9%
- Government 0.0%

In the Pacific Mountain region (which includes Lewis County), Washington State Employment Securities Department identified several industries of growth over the next two years (2012 Q2 through 2014 Q2). Overall, total nonfarm jobs will climb over the next two years 1.6%:

- Natural Resource & Mining up 3.3%
 - Construction up 3.2%
 - Manufacturing up 2.8% with considerable growth in Wood product (5.4%) Fabricated Metal Production (8.0%), and Computers and electronic product manufacturing (41.4%)
 - Professional and Business Services up 4.7%
 - Transportation, Warehousing and Utilities up 2.4%
- Other industry areas remain static:
- Wholesale Trade flat at 0.0%
 - Retail Trade up 1.3%
 - Information Service flat at 0.0%
 - Education and Health Services up 1.7%
 - Leisure and Hospitality up 1.3%
 - Government up slightly at 0.8%
 - Other services up 1.6%



Source: Washington State Office of Financial Management; Washington State Workforce Development



Source: Washington State Employment Securities Department

Regional and Local Industrial Clusters

In the 2009-2013 CLEDD CEDS Report, four main clusters were identified for the region: Energy, Manufacturing, Natural Resources, and Health Care. Over the last several years, two important studies were conducted in two of the counties. First, in August 2010, the Cowlitz Economic Development Council released “Turning Point,” the strategic plan for economic opportunities in Cowlitz County. Four potential industries were identified in the plan: specialized/advanced manufacturing, advanced logistics and distribution, technical and professional services, and health care. In addition to identifying clusters, the report provided a roadmap to the CEDC regarding the expansion of their role in economic development beyond industrial recruitment. The CEDC has partnered with the U.S. Forest Service in the development of a position to expand opportunities along the Mount St. Helens Corridor, SR 504. Also, the CEDC is working closely with cities to improve downtown development opportunities including that in Downtown Longview. The image on the right is a conceptual drawing at the gateway entrance of Longview. The development will include mixed use retail on the first floor and apartments on the upper floors and discussions with Lower Columbia College to include 50 units for international student housing.



In 2012, Pacific Mountain Workforce Development Council (who serves Lewis, Thurston, Grays Harbor and Mason counties) completed a cluster analysis. Lewis County’s clusters include food production (2,590 jobs), wood product and paper manufacturing (2,474 jobs), life sciences (1,579 jobs), chemical product and plastics manufacturing (100 jobs) and IT/ Telecommunications (233). In addition, the collective impact of Centralia College becoming Washington State’s Center of Excellence for Clean Energy by partnering with the Port of Chehalis and the Industrial Park to expand Energy production, has been initiated.

In addition, the Port of Centralia is moving forward in the development of Centralia Station. The vast property will include 400,000 square feet of retail space, 400,000 square feet of tech warehouse space, 40,000 square feet of space for Centralia College, up to 30,000 square feet for medical facilities and 10 acres for sports fields that will double as a stormwater facility. The development is key for the area, located outside the floodplain. The project will be enhanced by the development of a north interchange opportunity off of Interstate 5 in the future.



Cowlitz County					
Description	QCEW Cluster - Establishments	Industry Cluster Establishment LQ	QCEW Cluster - Employment	Industry Cluster Employment LQ	Industry Cluster Annual Wages LQ
Forest & Wood Products	83	3.85	3,732	11.17	18.7
Primary Metal Mfg.	3	2.75	169	3.29	5.02
Mining	5	1.23	147	2.81	2.56
Agribusiness, Food Processing & Technology	47	1.02	1,273	1.58	1.62
Transportation & Logistics	79	1.08	1,243	1.17	1.57
Biomedical/Biotechnical (Life Sciences)	94	0.85	4,253	1.09	1.25
Machinery Mfg.	8	1.17	259	1.18	1.19
Chemicals & Chemical Based Products	27	1.25	404	0.79	0.95
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	25	1.36	262	0.81	0.93
Energy (Fossil & Renewable)	102	0.76	1,428	0.91	0.81
Advanced Materials	41	0.94	923	0.81	0.8
Manufacturing Super cluster	45	1.18	1,036	0.8	0.74
Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component Mfg.	2	0.83	50	0.52	0.61
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Visitor Industries	78	0.88	902	0.65	0.56
Education & Knowledge Creation	36	0.84	690	0.51	0.51
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	3	0.82	200	0.62	0.51
Glass & Ceramics	4	1.36	24	0.39	0.47
Defense & Security	41	0.36	756	0.39	0.38
Printing & Publishing	28	0.44	232	0.42	0.37
Apparel & Textiles	7	0.33	45	0.26	0.23
Business & Financial Services	237	0.49	1,004	0.32	0.22
Information Technology & Telecommunications	32	0.27	336	0.25	0.22
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg	4	0.69	96	0.34	0.19
Total All Industries	3,070	1	35,272	1	1

Source: STATS America Innovation

Cowlitz County Industrial Clusters

Cowlitz County continues to diversify from their historically dominated cluster of natural resource production into manufacturing and transportation including export. Two of the three ports in the county have charged ahead in grain and bulk commodities export and trade. The Port of Longview is in the development stage of its newest property, Barlow Pointe, that may include additional deep water terminals. The Port of Kalama continues their expansion of its annexed property of mixed business use property on the east side of Interstate 5. The Port of Woodland will be moving forward to develop an outdoor recreational manufacturing incubator.

Lewis County

Description	QCEW Cluster - Establishments	Industry Cluster Establishment LQ	QCEW Cluster - Employment	Industry Cluster Employment LQ	Industry Cluster Annual Wages LQ
Forest & Wood Products	85	4.81	2,269	10.33	11.94
Mining	11	3.3	119	3.45	3.28
Agribusiness, Food Processing & Technology	93	2.47	888	1.67	1.92
Transportation & Logistics	76	1.26	922	1.32	1.6
Energy (Fossil & Renewable)	91	0.83	1,216	1.18	1.44
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	10	3.35	241	1.13	1.43
Biomedical/Biotechnical (Life Sciences)	64	0.71	2,431	0.95	1.2
Primary Metal Mfg.	1	1.12	31	0.92	1.14
Education & Knowledge Creation	26	0.74	726	0.82	1.12
Apparel & Textiles	9	0.52	89	0.78	1.06
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	15	1	138	0.65	0.83
Manufacturing Super cluster	29	0.93	448	0.52	0.63
Defense & Security	41	0.44	728	0.57	0.6
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Visitor Industries	63	0.86	534	0.58	0.48
Printing & Publishing	22	0.42	199	0.54	0.47
Chemicals & Chemical Based Products	13	0.73	132	0.39	0.45
Glass & Ceramics	2	0.83	12	0.3	0.34
Advanced Materials	23	0.64	181	0.24	0.25
Business & Financial Services	157	0.4	549	0.27	0.24
Machinery Mfg.	1	0.18	14	0.1	0.14
Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component Mfg.	1	0.51	10	0.16	0.12
Information Technology & Telecommunications	20	0.21	90	0.1	0.12
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	1	0.21	14	0.08	0.11
Total All Industries	2,516	1	23,188	1	1

Source: STATS America Innovation

Lewis County Industrial Cluster

Lewis County continues to expand into food production and energy. The Lewis County EDC has been working with local industries in an effort to decrease energy costs and upgrades to sites. In addition, the EDC is committed to expanding the food production/agriculture cluster, including poultry, dairy and produce, based on its proximity to the Seattle metro region. Natural Resource production remains a critical component of Lewis County's cluster with mills beginning to see an uptick in production.

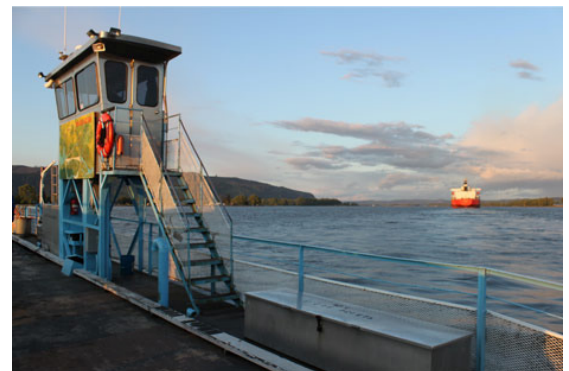
Wahkiakum County

Description	QCEW Cluster - Establishments	Industry Cluster Establishment LQ	QCEW Cluster - Employment	Industry Cluster Employment LQ	Industry Cluster Annual Wages LQ
Forest & Wood Products	13	14.01	136	20	43.26
Defense & Security	5	1.01	104	2.62	3.77
Education & Knowledge Creation	5	2.71	56	2.04	3.49
Energy (Fossil & Renewable)	6	1.04	54	1.69	1.93
Machinery Mfg.	1	3.39	5	1.12	1.75
Printing & Publishing	2	0.73	15	1.32	1.75
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Visitor Industries	5	1.31	45	1.59	1.69
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	1	1.27	6	0.91	1.29
Agribusiness, Food Processing & Technology	4	2.03	11	0.67	1
Chemicals & Chemical Based Products	1	1.07	8	0.77	0.98
Biomedical/Biotechnical (Life Sciences)	6	1.26	83	1.05	0.93
Information Technology & Telecommunications	4	0.79	12	0.44	0.53
Manufacturing Super cluster	2	1.22	11	0.42	0.51
Business & Financial Services	11	0.53	27	0.43	0.35
Advanced Materials	2	1.07	7	0.3	0.34
Transportation & Logistics	2	0.63	5	0.23	0.27
Total All Industries	132	1	718	1	1

Source: STATS America Innovation

Wahkiakum County Industrial Cluster

Wahkiakum County has had several setbacks in the last few years with decreasing logging and timber sales, Oregon rules on gillnetting limitations on commercial fisherman and the effects of the Great Recession. Yet, the County is expanding their efforts in tourism. New businesses in downtown Cathlamet and along the river in Skamokawa are providing the infrastructure for an expanded tourism season. In addition, there are new businesses in the works including a brewery incubator at the Wahkiakum Port #1 property.



Description	QCEW Cluster - Est.	Industry Cluster Est. LQ	QCEW Cluster - Employment	Industry Cluster Employment LQ	Industry Cluster Annual Wages LQ
Total All Industries	5,718	1	59,178	1	1
Agribusiness, Food Processing & Technology	144	1.68	2,172	1.6	1.72
Manufacturing Super cluster	76	1.07	1,495	0.69	0.7
Glass & Ceramics	6	1.12	36	0.36	0.42
Transportation Equipment Mfg.	13	1.96	441	0.82	0.84
Computer & Electronic Product Mfg.	5	0.48	110	0.23	0.16
Education & Knowledge Creation	67	0.84	1,472	0.65	0.76
Advanced Materials	66	0.81	1,111	0.58	0.6
Chemicals & Chemical Based Products	41	1.02	544	0.64	0.77
Printing & Publishing	52	0.44	446	0.48	0.42
Business & Financial Services	405	0.45	1,580	0.3	0.23
Primary Metal Mfg.	4	2.02	200	2.35	3.62
Electrical Equipment, Appliance & Component Mfg.	3	0.69	60	0.38	0.43
Forest & Wood Products	181	4.5	6,137	10.95	16.52
Information Technology & Telecommunications	56	0.26	438	0.19	0.19
Energy (Fossil & Renewable)	199	0.8	2,698	1.02	1.05
Mining	16	2.17	266	3.06	2.82
Fabricated Metal Product Mfg.	41	1.2	406	0.74	0.9
Machinery Mfg.	10	0.78	278	0.75	0.82
Apparel & Textiles	16	0.41	134	0.47	0.53
Transportation & Logistics	157	1.15	2,170	1.22	1.57
Biomedical/Biotechnical (Life Sciences)	164	0.79	6,767	1.04	1.23
Defense & Security	87	0.41	1,588	0.49	0.49
Arts, Entertainment, Recreation & Visitor Industries	146	0.88	1,481	0.63	0.54

Source: STATS America Innovation

Cowlitz County CEDS Committee

Executive Committee

Member	Business/Organization	Representation
Bianca Lemmons	Cowlitz County Title	Private Business
Suzanne Cusick	Longview School District	Special Purpose Government
Corey Balkan	Interwest Benefit Consultants	Private Business
Jim Lampitt	DeFancisco, Lampitt, and Brado, CPAs	Private Business
Mike Karnofski	Cowlitz County Commissioner	County Government
John Leber	Swanson Bark and Wood	Private Business
Bob Gregory	Longview City Manager	City Government
Don Lemmons	Applied Applications	Private Business
Brian Magnuson	Cascade Networks	Private Business
Steve Taylor	Kelso City Manager	City Government
Rob Harris	JH Kelly	Private Business
Dale Novotny	Applied Industries	Private Business

Lewis County CEDS Committee

Executive Committee

Member	Business/Organization	Representation
Roger Fish	TransAlta	Private Business
Lee Grose	Lewis County Commissioner	Government
Tom Nicholas	Tom Nicholas, CPA	Private Business
Ralph Hubbert	Tires, Inc.	Private Business
Bob Holland	Centralia General Agencies	Private Business
Norm Forsyth	Community Representative	Nonprofit
Craig Kline	Coldwell Banker Kline & Associates	Private Business

Wahkiakum County CEDS Committee

Executive Committee

To be determined



The Cowlitz-Lewis Economic Development District (CLEDD) is administered by the Cowlitz-Wahkiakum Council of Governments through the Economic Development Administration (EDA). The CLEDD wishes to acknowledge the EDA's continued support. For more information about the CLEDD, visit www.cwcog.org/cledd.

2013-2014 Cowlitz-Lewis Economic Development District

Board Members

2013-2014 CLEDD Chair: Commissioner Mike Karnofski

2013-2014 CLEDD Vice-Chair: Commissioner Lee Grose

2013-2014 CLEDD Board		
Member	Alternate	Organization
Grover Laseke	Carolyn Johnson	City of Woodland
Pete Poulsen	Adam Smee	City of Kalama
Rick Roberson	Dave Sypher	City of Kelso
Bob Gregory	Dave Campbell	City of Longview
Ellen Rose	Ray Teter	City of Castle Rock
Glen Cook	Don Bradshaw	City of Winlock
Kevin Flynn	Jill Nielson	City of Vader
John Sayers	Bob Wheeler	City of Napavine
Bob Spahr	Merlin MacReynold	City of Chehalis
Bonnie Canaday	**Vacant**	City of Centralia
Spencer Nichols	**Vacant**	City of Pe Ell
Michelle Whitten	**Vacant**	City of Toledo
Nelson Holmberg	Dale Boon	Port of Woodland
Lou Johnson	Darold Dietz	Port of Longview
Troy Stariha/Mark Wilson	Liz Newman	Port of Kalama
Jim Rothlin	Mark Anders	Port of Chehalis
Dan Keahey	**Vacant**	Port of Centralia
Mike Karnofski	Dennis Weber	Cowlitz County
Lee Grose	Edna Fund	Lewis County
Dick Larman	David Baria	Lewis County EDC
Ted Sprague	Scot Walstra	Cowlitz EDC
Lynda Gerlach	**Vacant**	Wahkiakum Chamber/EDC
Joel Lengyel	Vivian Mosby	Woodland Chamber of Commerce
Liz Newman	Taryn Nelson	Kalama Chamber of Commerce

2013-2014 CLEDD Board		
Member	Alternate	Organization
Bill Marcum	**Vacant**	Kelso-Longview Chamber of Commerce
Bill Davis	**Vacant**	Castle Rock Chamber of Commerce
Betty Hutchinson	Paulette Redick	Morton Chamber of Commerce
Vacant	**Vacant**	Centralia- Chehalis Chamber of Commerce
Vacant	**Vacant**	South Lewis Chamber of Commerce
Paul Stewart	**Vacant**	East Lewis Chamber of Commerce
Jerry Petrick	**Vacant**	Small Bus Development Center- Cowlitz
David Baria	**Vacant**	Small Bus Development Center- Lewis
Dr. Chris Bailey, President	Brendan Glaser	Lower Columbia College
Dr. James Walton, President	**Vacant**	Centralia College
Mary Brown	Tom Foley	SW WA Workforce Development Council
Member	Alternate	Organization
Taylor Aalvik	Tim VanMechelen	Cowlitz Tribe
Tani Gunn	**Vacant**	The Lending Network
Ilona Kerby	Michael Torres	Lower Columbia CAP
Bill Lotto	**Vacant**	IPAT
Gary Fredricks	**Vacant**	WSU-Cowlitz
Sheila Gray	**Vacant**	WSU-Lewis

2013-2014 CLEDD Inclusion Membership Additions		
Member	Alternate	Organization
Blair Brady		Wahkiakum County Commissioner
Vacant		City of Cathlamet
Lynda Gerlach		Wahkiakum County EDC/Chamber
Carrie Backman		WSU Extension, Wahkiakum
Vacant		Wahkiakum County Port #1
Vacant		Business Representative, Wahkiakum





**Cowlitz Lewis Economic Development District
Board Meeting
Cowlitz County Regional Events Center
1900 - 7th Ave., Longview, WA
October 24, 2013 ~ 11:45 AM**

Minutes

Members Attending

Michelle Whitten, City of Toledo
Grover Laseke, City of Woodland
Matt Matayoshi, Lewis EDC
David Sypher, City of Kelso
Troy Stariha, Port of Kalama
Blair Brady, Wahkiakum County
Ashley Turner, Wahkiakum Chamber
Rick Roberson, City of Kelso
Bob Gregory, City of Longview

Lou Johnson, Port of Longview
Don Bradshaw, City of Winlock
Carrie Backman, WSU Extension, Wahkiakum
David Campbell, City of Longview
Ilona Kerby, Lower Columbia CAP
Chris Bailey, Lower Columbia College
Ted Sprague, Cowlitz EDC
Mike Karnofski, Cowlitz County

Staff Attending

Scott Patterson, Jennifer Keene, Katie Wells

Chair Karnofski called the meeting to order at 11:45 AM and welcomed everyone. Introductions were made around the room.

Approval of June 18, 2013 Minutes:

A motion was made and seconded to approve the June 18, 2013 minutes as presented. Motion carried.

Approval of the CEDS Action Plan 2013-2014

Jennifer Keene reminded the Board that this plan is on the COG website for review/comment. A hard copy can be provided for anyone interested in having one. After a short discussion, Chair Karnofski asked for a motion to approve the CEDS Action Plan for 2013-2014. A motion was made and seconded to approve the CEDS Action Plan for 2013-2014. Motion carried.

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 11:50 AM.