

Office of Columbia River Overview

Legislative Council on River Governance - 2022
August 10, 2022

G. Thomas Tebb, L.G., L.H.g., L.E.G.
Director, Office of Columbia River



Columbia River Partnership

December 2004

- **Columbia River Initiative
Memorandum of Understanding**

February 2006

- **State's Columbia River Water
Resource Management Act**



<p style="text-align: center;">Memorandum of Understanding Concerning the State of Washington's Columbia River Initiative</p>	
<p>PARTIES</p> <p>This Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is entered into between the State of Washington (State), acting through the state agencies which are signatories hereto; the Pacific Northwest Region of the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation); and the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District, the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District, and the Quincy-Columbia Basin Irrigation District (collectively referred to as the</p>	
<p>EFFECT</p> <p>Section 1. This MOU is intended to parties to advance the actions legally binding contract or an in equity by any party against. This MOU does not constitute the parties to the jurisdiction procedures presently available substantive or procedural, except as provided in this MOU. This MOU shall not be construed to be a contract of compliance or noncompliance.</p> <p>Section 2. Nothing in this MOU or water rights for the Columbia River Project, including the Project modification of water rights and Project repayment contracts, the current operations of the Project as congressionally authorized, cost obligations and operating contracts.</p> <p>Section 3. The parties will use the Project and along the lines described in this MOU.</p> <p>Section 4. Through the Columbia River, the mainstem of the Columbia River, the State will manage the water resources of the Columbia River Basin in a manner that protects and preserves the water resources of the Columbia River Basin for the benefit of the State, the Pacific Northwest Region, and the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District, the East Columbia Basin Irrigation District, and the Quincy-Columbia Basin Irrigation District.</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;">CERTIFICATION OF ENROLLMENT ENGROSSED SECOND SUBSTITUTE HOUSE BILL 2860</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Chapter 6, Laws of 2006</p> <p style="text-align: center;">59th Legislature 2006 Regular Session</p> <p style="text-align: center;">COLUMBIA RIVER BASIN--WATER SUPPLY</p> <p style="text-align: center;">EFFECTIVE DATE: 7/01/06</p>	
<p>Passed by the House February 15, 2006 Year 94 Mays 4</p> <p>FRANK CHAFFEE Speaker of the House of Representatives</p> <p>Passed by the Senate February 14, 2006 Year 46 Mays 6</p> <p>BRAD OWEN President of the Senate</p> <p>Approved February 16, 2006.</p> <p style="text-align: right;">RICHARD NAFTZGER Chief Clerk</p> <p style="text-align: right;">FILED February 16, 2006 - 2:45 p.m.</p>	
<p>CHRISTINE GREGOIRE Governor of the State of Washington</p> <p>Secretary of State State of Washington</p>	

Columbia River Basin Water Management Act (2006)

- Significant investment in new storage and conservation
 - Capital: authorization for bonds of up to \$200 million
 - Operating: \$2.1 million and 15 FTEs
- 2/3 of funds for study & construction of new storage & pump exchanges
 - 1/3 of new storage for improving streamflows to benefit fish
 - 2/3 of new storage for new out-of-stream uses
- 1/3 of funds for all other water supply projects

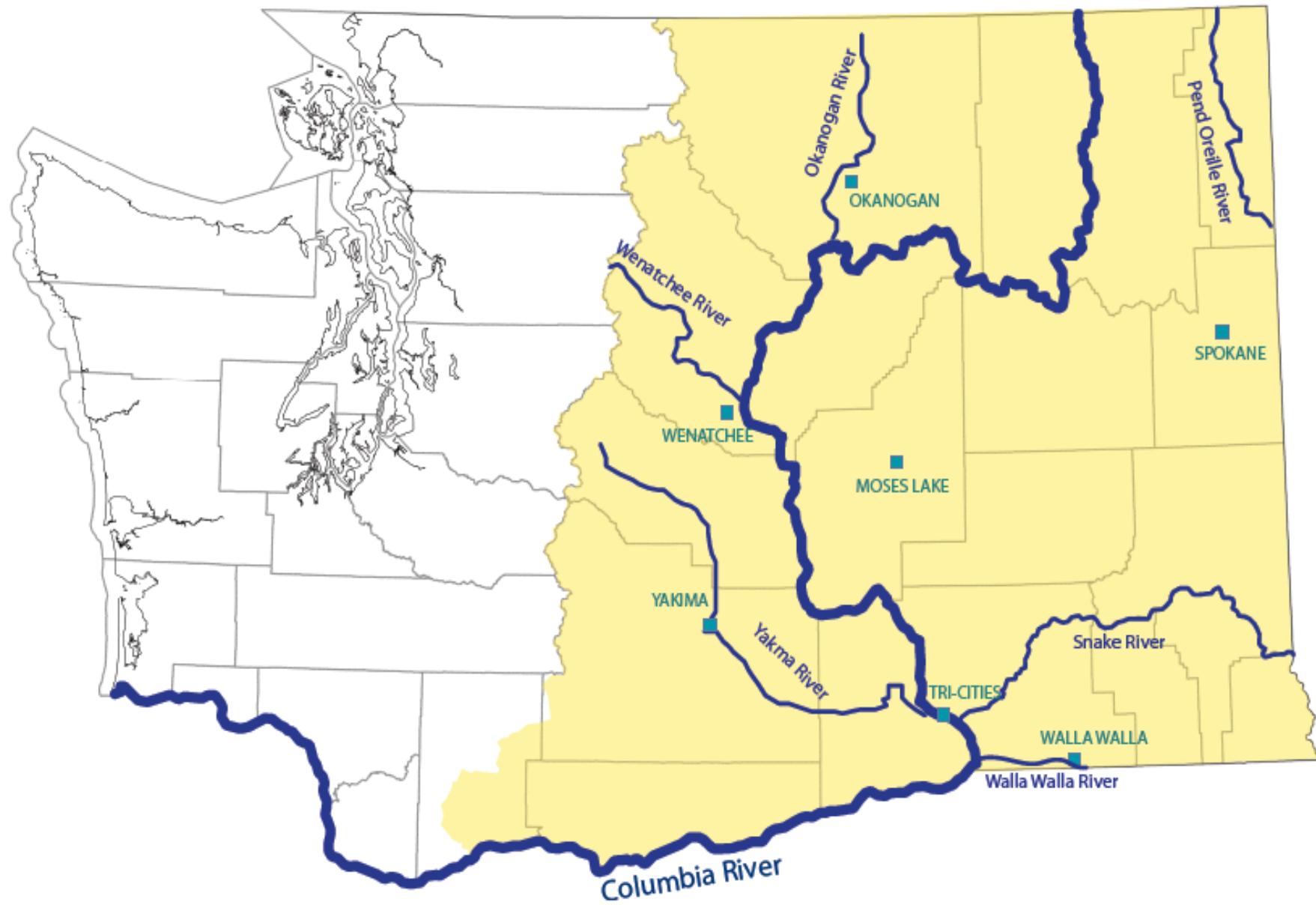


Ecology was tasked with managing the funds & created the Office of Columbia River (OCR) to use these funds to develop new water supplies

OCR's Mission....

Aggressively pursue water supply development for both instream and out-of-stream uses. RCW 90.90.005(2)







Water Supply Development Account Uses

- Assess, plan, and develop new storage
- Improve or alter existing storage facilities
- Implement conservation projects
- Any other actions to provide access to new water supplies (e.g., acquisitions, leases, marketing)

RCW 90.90 Statutory Focus

1. Find alternatives to groundwater for the Odessa subarea aquifer  
2. Develop water supply for pending water right applications   
3. Create uninterrupted supply of water for interruptible water right holders 
4. Meet new (future) municipal, domestic, industrial and irrigation water needs  
5. Provide water for instream needs 



Program Evolution

- Problem solving focus
- Seeking balance
 - ✓ In water allocation
 - ✓ Between mainstem and tributaries in program focus
 - ✓ In geographic distribution of projects
 - ✓ In types of projects
 - ✓ Between water quantity and overall aquatic resources



OCR Projects

OCR WATER PROJECTS 2020

● Completed, Developed
● Active, Under Development

Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Initial Development Projects

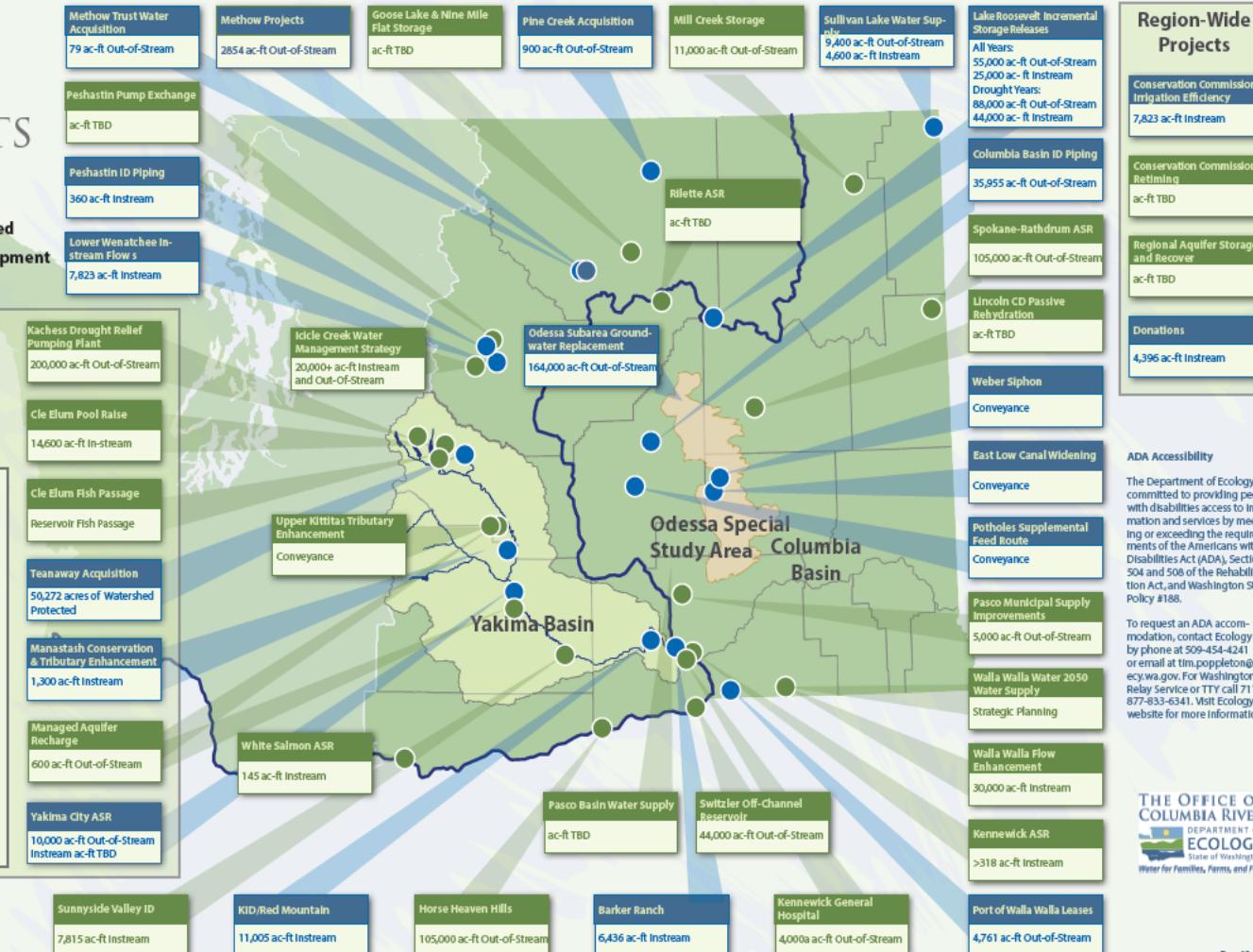
Multiple Site Projects

Habitat Enhancement & Restoration
33 Projects

Enhanced Water Conservation
10,000 ac-ft

Kittitas Distributed Off-Channel Small Storage
ac-ft TBD

Other Yakima Basin Integrated Plan Projects
150,400 ac-ft Instream & Out-of-Stream



Region-Wide Projects

Conservation Commission Irrigation Efficiency	7,823 ac-ft Instream
Conservation Commission Retiming	ac-ft TBD
Regional Aquifer Storage and Recovery	ac-ft TBD
Donations	4,396 ac-ft Instream

ADA Accessibility

The Department of Ecology is committed to providing people with disabilities access to information and services by meeting or exceeding the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA), Section 504 and 508 of the Rehabilitation Act, and Washington State Policy #118.

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 509-454-4241 or email at tim.popleton@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit Ecology's website for more information.

THE OFFICE OF
COLUMBIA RIVER
DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington
Water for Families, Farms, and Fish

Rev: 03.16.20
Ecology Publication Number: 16-12-010

2021 – 2023 Capital Budget -

- OCRs 21-23 capital budget proposal = **\$40** million.
- YBIPs 21-23 capital budget proposal = **\$42** million.
- YRBWEP 21-23 capital budget proposal = **\$5** million
- Budget reduction exercises are part of our submittal package.
- Agency budget proposal due to OFM in Sept. 2020.



Investments to date

BIENNIUM	OCR	YBIP
2006 – 2013	\$ 96.5 million	Funded out of OCR budget
2013 – 2015	\$ 74.5 million	\$ 143.3 million (includes TCF)
2015 – 2017	\$ 19.0 million	\$ 30.0 million
2017 – 2019	\$ 33.8 million	\$ 31.1 million
2019 - 2021	\$ 40.0 million	\$ 40.0 million
TOTAL	\$ 263.7 million	\$ 244.4 million



Yakima Basin Integrated Plan (YBIP)

7 Elements



Yakima River Basin Water Resource Management Act—SSSB 5367 (2013)

Purpose

- Partnership among Washington State, Yakama Nation, federal government and water users to meet the Yakima Basin's future needs
- Address non-federal issues

Ecology authorized to implement Integrated Plan

- To protect and enhance fish and wildlife
- To improve availability and reliability of water supplies as well as efficiency of use
- To establish flexible operational enhancements to prepare for the uncertainties of climate change



Yakima River Basin Water Resource Management Act—SSSB 5367 (2013)

Funding

- State commits up to 50% of the cost of Integrated Plan, non-state funding is federal, local, and private
- Funding ratio does not apply to individual projects

Reporting

- Ecology submits financing report and accomplishment report to the Governor and Legislature in alternate years beginning December 1, 2015 and ending in 2045

Legislation does not:

- Pre-authorize any specific project
- Eliminate or reduce requirements for project related analyses or permits



YRBWEP Workgroup Members

- **Federal Agencies**

- Bureau of Reclamation
- National Marine Fisheries Service
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- U.S. Forest Service
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

- **Yakama Nation**

- Yakama Nation Natural Resources
- Yakima/Klickitat Fisheries Project

- **Washington State Agencies**

- Department of Ecology
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Fish and Wildlife
- Department of Natural Resources



10-Year Anniversary – June 2009 to June 2019

- **Local Governments**

- Benton County
- Kittitas County
- Yakima County
- City of Yakima

- **Irrigated Agriculture**

- Kennewick Irrigation District
- Kittitas Reclamation District
- Roza Irrigation District
- Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District
- Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District

- **Other Stakeholders**

- American Rivers
- Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board
- Yakima Basin Storage Alliance
- Trout Unlimited



Federal Legislation

John D. Dingell, Jr. Conservation, Management, and Recreation Act



Sponsors: Senator Cantwell (D-WA) and Senator Murkowski (R-AK)

and Yakima Title: Senator Cantwell, Congressman Newhouse (R-WA) and
Congresswoman Schrier (D-WA)

Passed Republican controlled Senate – February 12, 2019

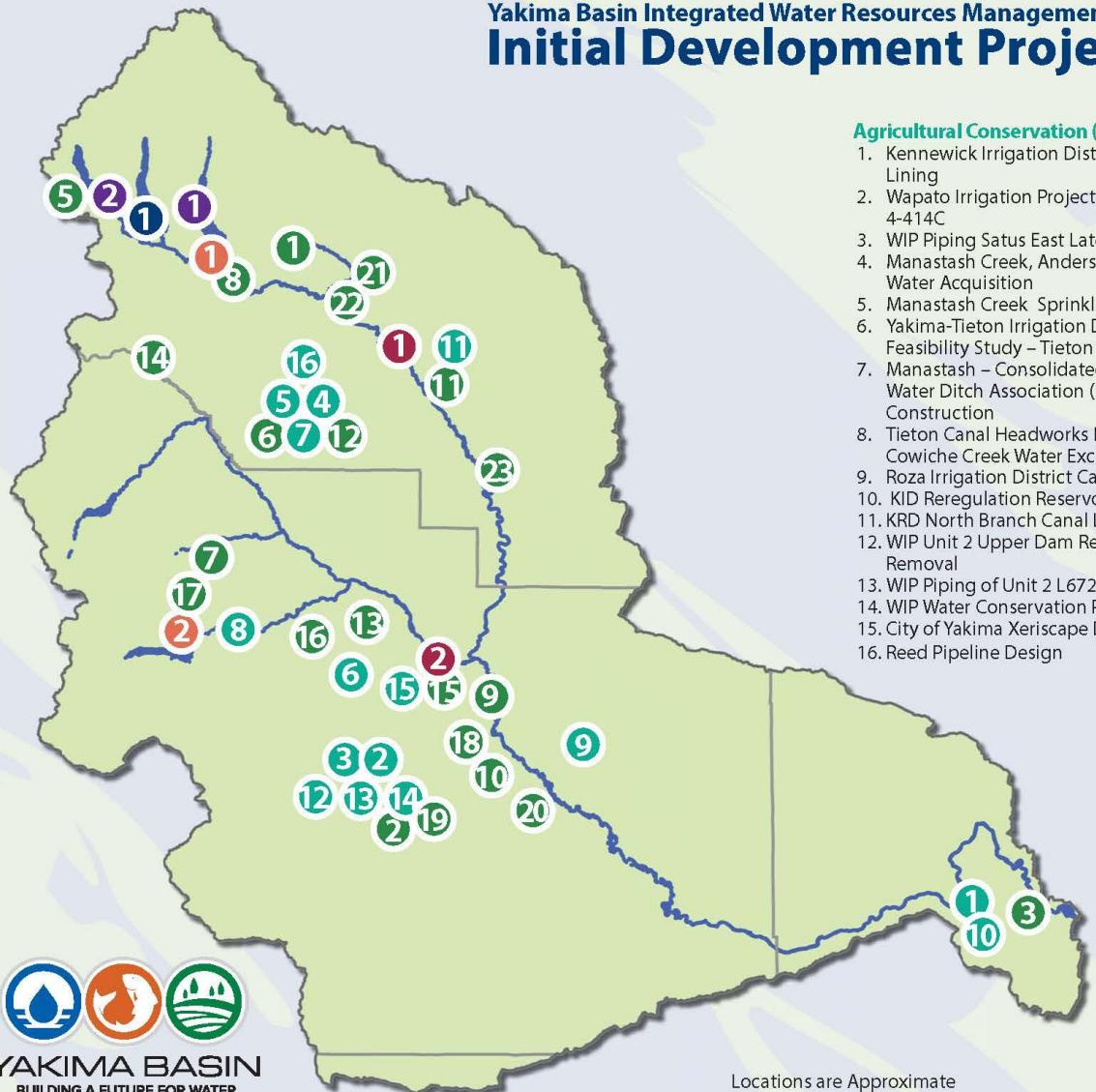
Passed Democratic controlled House – February 26, 2019

Signed March 12, 2019



First 10 Years: Projects by Element

Yakima Basin Integrated Water Resources Management Plan Initial Development Projects



Agricultural Conservation (2013-2017)

1. Kennewick Irrigation District (KID) Division IV Lining
2. Wapato Irrigation Project (WIP) Piping Lateral 4-414C
3. WIP Piping Status East Lateral E73
4. Manastash Creek, Anderson Diversion Irrigation Water Acquisition
5. Manastash Creek Sprinkler Conversions
6. Yakima-Tieton Irrigation District (YTID) Feasibility Study - Tieton to Ahtanum Exchange
7. Manastash - Consolidated Pipeline & Manastash Water Ditch Association (MWDA) Pipeline Construction
8. Tieton Canal Headworks Improvement and Cowiche Creek Water Exchange.
9. Roza Irrigation District Canal Lining
10. KID Reregulation Reservoir Design
11. KRD North Branch Canal Lining
12. WIP Unit 2 Upper Dam Rebuild and Lower Dam Removal
13. WIP Piping of Unit 2 L672
14. WIP Water Conservation Plan
15. City of Yakima Xeriscape Demonstration Project
16. Reed Pipeline Design

Fish Passage

1. Cle Elum Dam
2. Tieton (Rimrock) Dam

Groundwater Storage

1. Upper Kittitas Aquifer Storage and Recovery
2. Yakima City Aquifer Storage and Recovery

Structural and Operational Changes

3. Cle Elum Pool Raise
4. Keechelus to Kachess Conveyance

Surface Water Storage

1. Kachess Drought Relief Pumping Plant

Water Bank/Exchange Programs

Basin Wide

Habitat Enhancement (2013-2017)

1. Teanaway Acquisition
2. Toppenish Fan Habitat Restoration
3. Bateman Island Causeway Modification
4. Conceptual Design/Outreach/Permitting
4. Bull Trout Habitat Improvements
5. Gold Creek Habitat Assessment and Conceptual Design
6. Reed Diversion design Barrier Removal
7. Little Rattlesnake Road Decommissioning
8. Cle Elum River Side Channel Restoration Project, Phase 2
9. Gap-to-Gap Property Acquisitions
10. Upper Wapato Riparian Restoration
11. Ellensburg Water Company / Coleman Creek Restoration
12. Reed Diversion Barrier Removal
13. Trout Meadows Acquisition / Enhancement
14. Manastash/ Little Naches Land Acquisition
15. Gap-to-Gap Outfall Relocation, Land Acquisition and Levee Removal design and Restoration
16. Cowiche Easement/Design
17. South Fork Tieton Bull Trout Passage Feasibility and Design
18. Rivermile 89.5 Levee Breach
19. Island Road Floodplain Reconnection - Toppenish Creek
20. Wapato Reach - 3-way Levee Setback
21. Teanaway/Indian Creek Restoration
22. Teanaway Habitat Restoration
23. Upper Yakima Floodplain Acquisition and Design Ringer Loop Road

Leveraging federal dollars in the Yakima

Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan

FY 2011 – FY 2021 Federal Projects Funding Table

Agency	Projects/Programs Supporting the Integrated Plan	FY 2011 Funding	FY 2012 Funding	FY 2013 Funding	FY 2014 Funding	FY 2015 Funding	FY 2016 Funding	FY 2017 Funding	FY 2018 Funding	FY 2019 Funding	FY 2020* Funding	FY 2021 Funding	Purpose for funds
Reclamation	Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project (YRBWEP)	\$12.3M	\$10.9M	\$9.5M	\$9.3M	\$14.5M	\$22.1M	\$23.8M	\$28.1M	\$23.7 M	\$20.8 M		Water Conservation, Tributary Habitat Restoration, Fish Passage, Water Supply, Water/Land Acquisitions and Restoration Note: \$1.3 M was appropriated in FY2010 for the Yakima Basin Study
Bonneville Power Administration	Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Fish and Wildlife Program	\$22.7M	\$20.5M	\$20.0M	\$17.6M	\$18.6M	\$19.6M	\$20.4M	\$18.1M				Water Conservation, Tributary Habitat Restoration, Fish Passage, Water/Land Acquisitions and Restoration, Monitoring and Evaluation, Artificial Production
US Forest Service	Land and Water Conservation Fund	\$845k	\$2.6M	\$874k	\$3M	\$3.4M	\$2.2M	\$1.5M	\$5M	\$4M	\$1.56M		Purchase Property consistent with Land Acquisition areas identified in Yakima Integrated Plan
NOAA Fisheries	Pacific Coastal Salmon Recovery Fund	\$1.2 M	\$1.2M	\$1.2 M	\$1.2 M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M	\$1.2M	Yakima Basin habitat projects
US Department of Agriculture, Natural Resources Conservation Service	Regional Conservation Partnership Program					\$105k	\$1.9M	\$1.5M	\$1.8M	\$2.3M	\$2.4M	\$1.6M	Water conservation and habitat restoration projects on Yakama Nation reservation and across the Yakima River Basin..
	Environmental Quality Incentives Program	\$1.83M	\$1.36M	\$826k	\$1.37M	\$1.07M	\$2.6M						Irrigation efficiencies, water quality, and fish habitat improvements on agricultural land.
Bureau of Indian Affairs	Lining and piping on Wapato Irrigation Project		\$630k	\$1.1M	\$200k	\$700k	\$1.35M	\$2.8M	\$1.9M	\$2.6 M			Water Conservation
US Fish and Wildlife	Partners for Fish and Wildlife National Fish Passage Program	\$190k	\$124k	\$190k	\$90k	\$55k	\$200k	\$256k	\$200k	\$200k			Habitat Restoration/ Fish Passage
Bureau of Land Management	Landscape Restoration Program, Recreation Program	\$845K	\$280K	\$320K	\$280K	\$330K	\$1.7M	\$380K	\$305K	\$370K	\$380K	\$400K	Range/Riparian Restoration, Post Fire Rehabilitation, Recreation and Public Services
Corps of Engineers	Flood plain restoration		\$6.6M	\$380k	\$100k	\$270k	\$170k	\$40k	\$700k	\$800k	\$925k		Levee Reconfiguration Setback and Removal, Yakima Delta

*President's budget request. Subject to change.

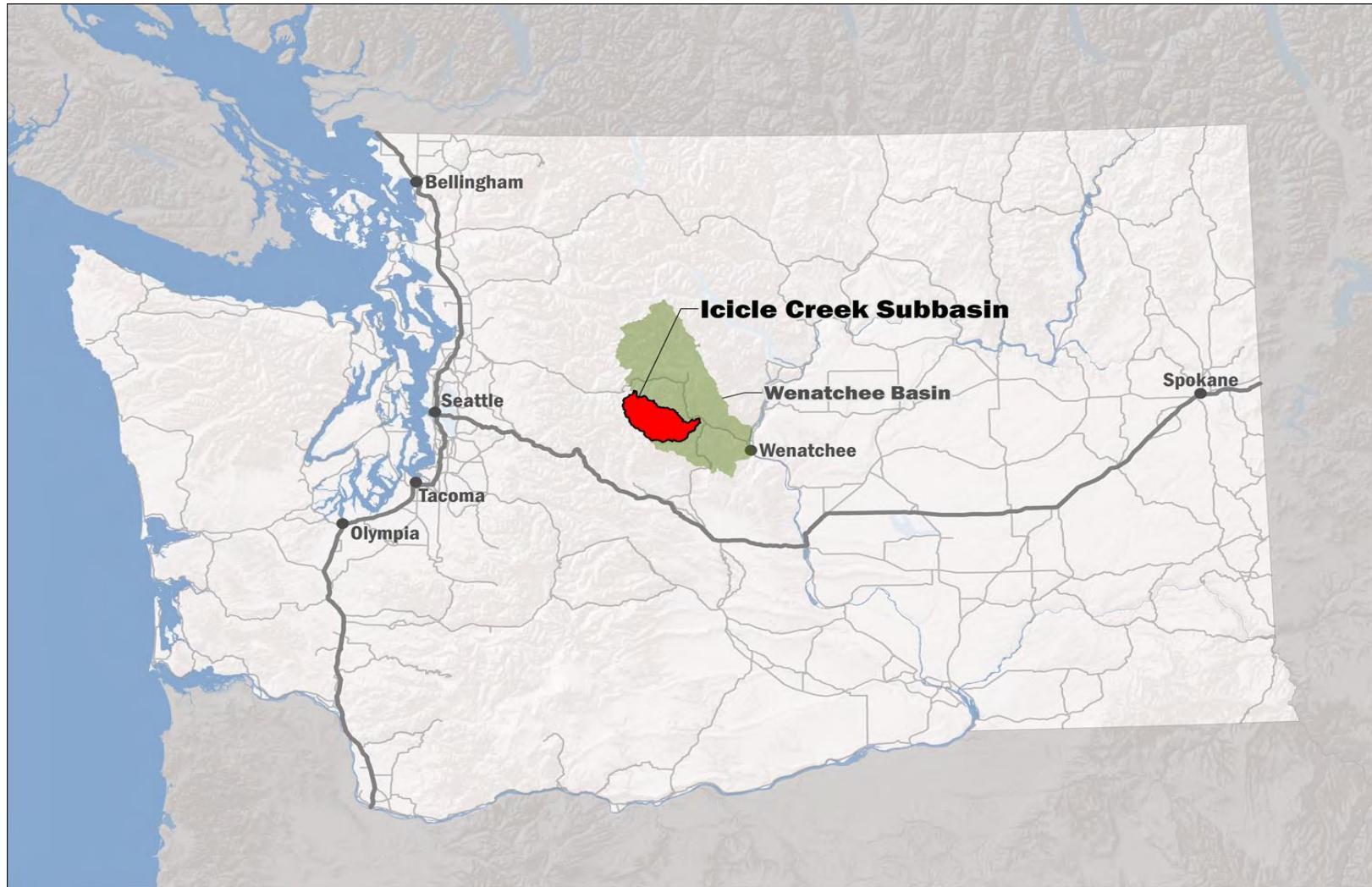


Icicle Creek – WRIA 45



**Icicle Creek
Water Resource
Management
Strategy**

Icicle Creek Subbasin



Icicle Creek Water Resource Management Strategy

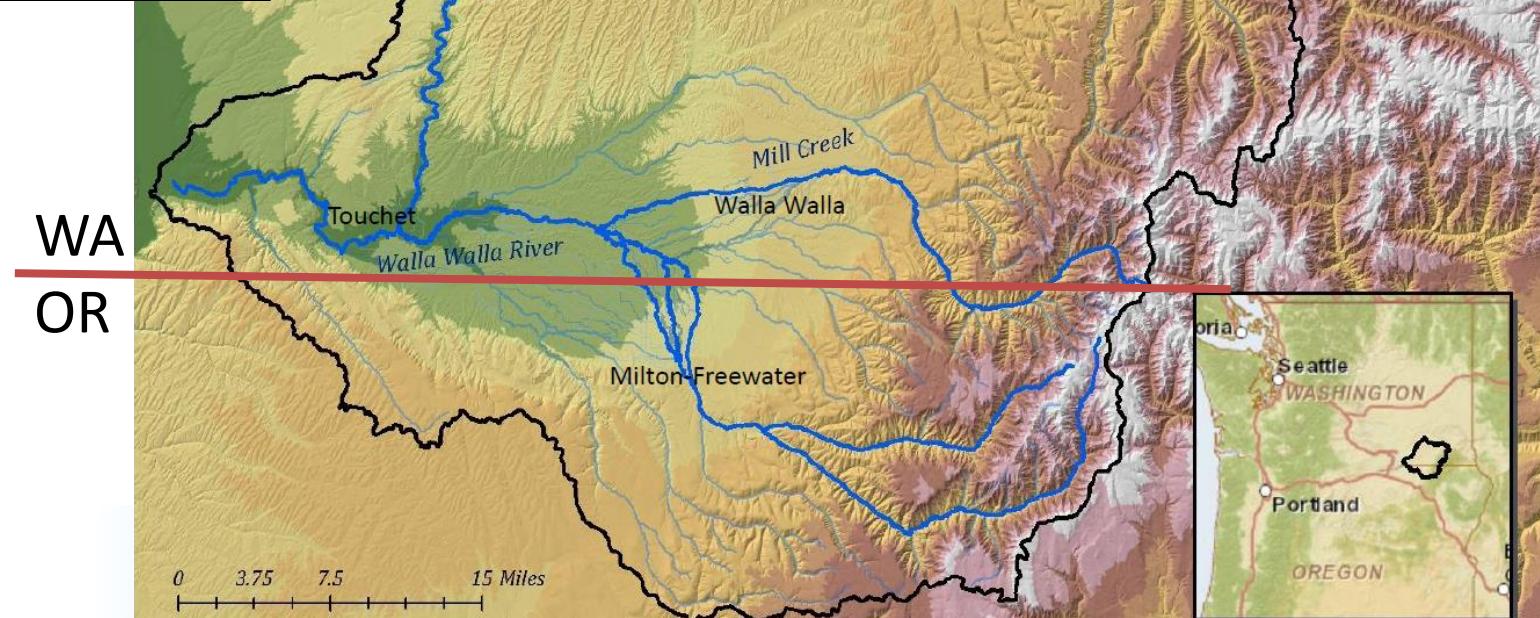
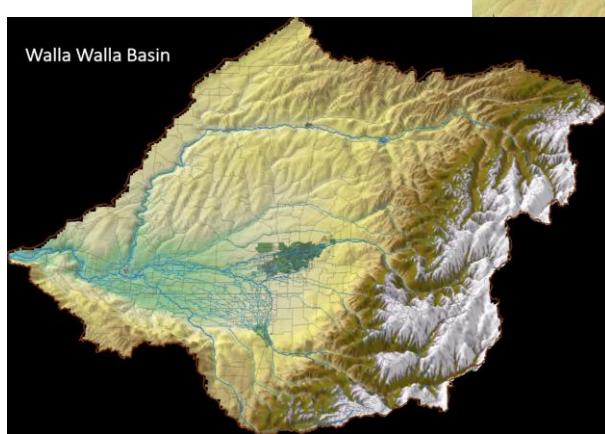


Timeline of Icicle Strategy





Walla Walla Basin





Walla Walla Basin Walla Walla 2050 Strategy

Developed in collaboration with Walla Walla Water
Management Partnership, CTUIR and OWRD

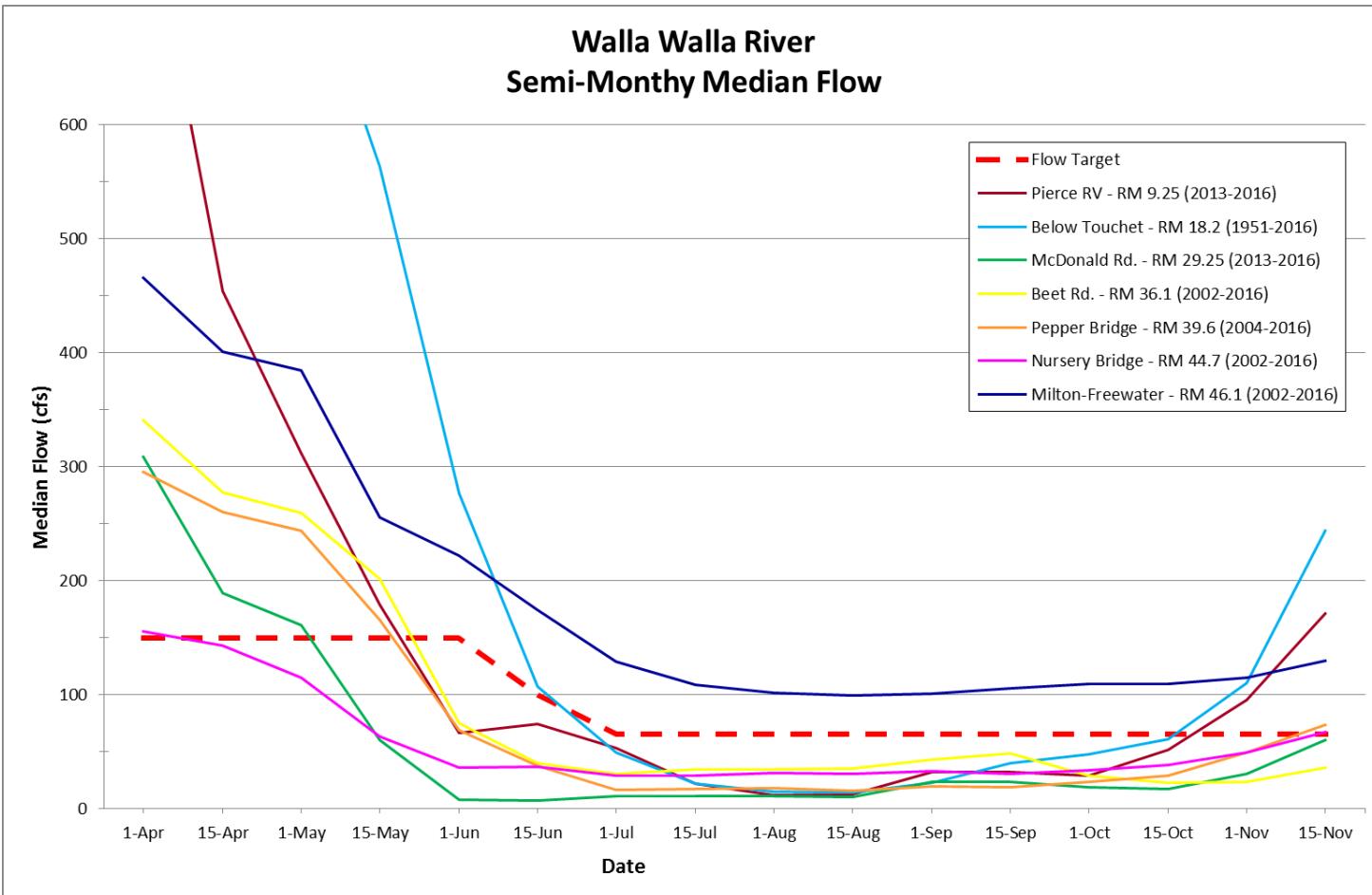


Walla Walla 2050 Strategy

“an integrated water resource approach”

- Pass enabling legislation in Washington (2023-2025)
- Assess, plan, and develop new water supply alternatives (e.g., storage, CR Pump exchange)
- Develop bi-state regulatory framework
- Use science based decision making (USGS, OpenET, etc.)
- Improve instream flows in the basin
- Improve or alter existing diversion(s) and fish passage at current instream infrastructure
- Implement conservation projects
- Any other actions to provide access to new water supplies or retiming of existing (e.g., ASR, acquisitions, leases, marketing)

Walla Walla Instream Flow



Aquifer Storage and Recovery

- Cities of
 - White Salmon
 - Kennewick
 - Yakima
 - Othello

- Source Water Supply
- Appropriate Geology to hold water
- Water Quality
- Economical Infrastructure
- Enabling Permitting Environment



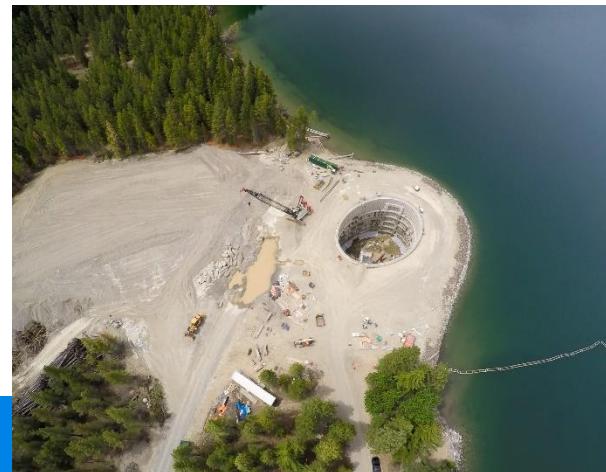
Collaboration Group Work leads to Workgroup



Where are We Headed?

- On-going need to develop water supplies and invest in infra-structure
- 2021 Forecasting future water supply needs based on more sophisticated methodology, surface and groundwater inter-relationships and curtailment (recently published)
- Building innovative and sustainable partnerships
- Secure long-term source(s) of funding
- Delivering integrated multi use water resource solutions





Questions or Discussion

[https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/Our-
Programs/Office-of-the-Columbia-River](https://ecology.wa.gov/About-us/Get-to-know-us/Our-Programs/Office-of-the-Columbia-River)