

# Icicle Creek Water Resource Management Strategy

**Columbia River Policy Advisory Group** June 7, 2018

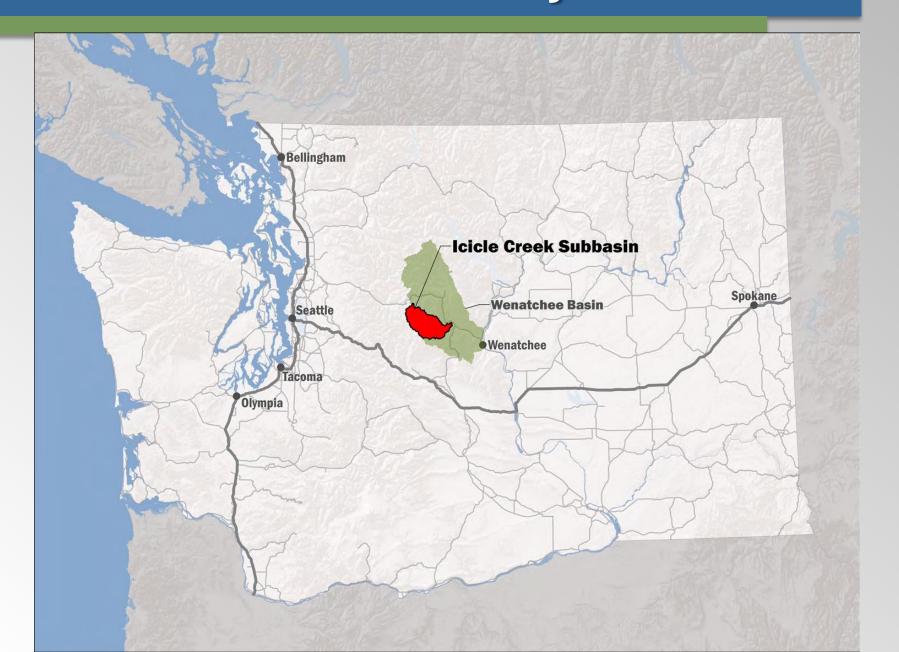
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# Icicle Creek is a tributary in WRIA 45



# Background

- Co-Conveners: Ecology OCR and Chelan County DNR
- Process: Assembled Icicle Workgroup (IWG) Stakeholders
- Timeline:
  - 2012 to 2015: Guiding Principles adopted, studies completed, and alternative projects considered
  - 2015 to 2016: Icicle Strategy (base package) endorsed by IWG and SEPA scoping
  - 2016 to 2018: Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and feasibility studies ongoing
  - 2018 to 2022: Individual project environmental review checks, permitting, design and implementation
- Goals: Meet instream and out-of-stream objectives in Icicle Creek Basin, provide an alternate pathway for conflict resolution other than litigation

## **IWG Members**

- Ecology Office of Columbia River
- Chelan Co Board of Commissioners
- Conf Tribes of the Yakama Indian Nation
- WA State Dept of Fish & Wildlife
- Conf Tribes of the Colville Reservation

- Icicle & Peshastin Irrigation District
- USFWS Leavenworth Fish Hatchery
- City of Leavenworth
- NOAA Fisheries
- Cascade Orchard Irrigation Co
- Icicle Creek Watershed Council

- WA Water Trust
- US Forest Service
- Trout Unlimited
- Agricultural Representatives
- City of Cashmere
- US Bureau of Reclamation

## **Guiding Principles**

#### Improve Streamflow

- Dry Year Goal = 60 cfs (current conditions <20 cfs)</li>
- Average Year Goal = 100 to 250 cfs (current is 60 cfs)

## Improve Sustainability of the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery

- Meet fish production requirements
- Fulfill federally protected Tribal fishing rights
- Protect and conserve water rights
- Maximize fish health
- Minimize fish barriers

## **Guiding Principles**

 Protect Tribal Treaty and Federally-Protected fishing/ harvest rights

#### Meet Domestic Water Demand

 Increase year-round supply by 3-6 cfs (peak) (thru 2050)

#### Improve Agricultural Reliability

- Improve management of existing lake storage
- Current interruptible water use (2-4 cfs) made firm

## **Guiding Principles**

- Improve and Protect Icicle Creek Habitat
  - Stream habitat enhancement and protection
  - Improve fish passage
  - Fish screen upgrades
- Protect Non-Treaty Harvest
- Comply with State and Federal Laws and Wilderness Acts

#### What Does Flow In Icicle Creek Look Like?



Low flow in late 2001 was about 20 cfs (and 16.4 cfs in 2015)

## SEPA - Process

#### Pre-Scoping

- Co-Lead Agency Memorandum of Agreement
- Identified cooperating agencies
- NEPA integration strategy
- Stakeholder meetings
- Identified potential permits

#### Completed Expanded Checklist

- Assembled existing environmental documents, outreach materials,
- Issued Determination of Significance
- Public Notice / Open House / Comment Period
- Evaluated Comments
- Created 5 Alternatives
- Began Draft EIS Process

## **SEPA Process Overview**

## **Icicle Strategy SEPA**

- Proposal: Guiding Principles and "Base Package"
- Draft EIS: What is Included?
  - Existing environment
  - Alternatives and no-action
  - Impacts
  - Mitigation measures
  - Permitting framework
- Will Project Environmental Review Occur?
  - Yes, if NEPA required or new substantial environmental impacts are found.
  - No, just the Programmatic EIS if no new substantial impacts.
  - Project-by-Project determination

## **Overview of Potential Projects**

- Conservation
- Groundwater Augmentation
- Reuse
- Pump Exchanges
- Modification of Existing Storage
- New Storage
- Water Markets
- Fish Passage and Screening
- Habitat Improvement
- Tribal Fishery Enhancement

#### What PEIS Alternatives Are Evaluated?

- No Action
- Icicle Workgroup Base Package includes a balance of conservation and storage modification and restoration projects, plus habitat/screening/passage improvements.
- Alternatives that combine projects to focus on different local values:
  - A conservation focused alternative with no Wilderness impacts
  - Storage focused alternatives
  - Pump exchange focused alternatives

Projects	Proposed Alternatives					
	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
	Conservation					
IPID Irrigation Efficiencies	0	•	•	•	•	
COIC Irrigation Efficiencies (Piping)	•	•	•	•	•	•
Domestic Conservation Efficiencies	0	•	•	•	•	•
LNFH Conservation and Water Quality Improvements	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Pump Exchange					
IPID Dryden Pump Exchange	0	0	•	•		
Full IPID Pump Station						•
COIC Irrigation Efficiencies (Pump Exchange)	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Modification/Restoration of Existing Storage					
Alpine Lakes Reservoir Optimization, Modernization and Automation	0	•			•	•
Eightmile Lake Storage Restoration	0	•	•	0	•	•
	New Storage					
Eightmile Lake Storage Enhancement					•	
Upper Klonaqua Lake Storage Enhancement					•	
Upper and Lower Snow Lakes Storage Enhancement					•	
	Habitat/Fisheries Improvements					
Tribal Fishery Protection	0	•	•	•	•	•
Habitat Protection and Enhancement	0	•	•	•	•	•
Fish Passage	•	•	•	•	•	•
Fish Screening	•	•	•	•	•	•
	Legislative/Administrative Tools					
Water Markets		•	•	•	•	•
Instream Flow Rule Amendment	0	•	•	•	•	•
OCPI legislative fix from instream flow impacts				•		

O Represents projects that might proceed if funding becomes available. However, under the No-action Alternative, project beneficiaries may be different and project timelines are unknown.

<sup>•</sup> Represents projects that are likely to occur as described, but could be replaced by another project that fulfills the same guiding principles if a design, funding, or permitting fatal flaw is identified.

#### What PEIS Alternatives Are Not Evaluated?

Removing Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery

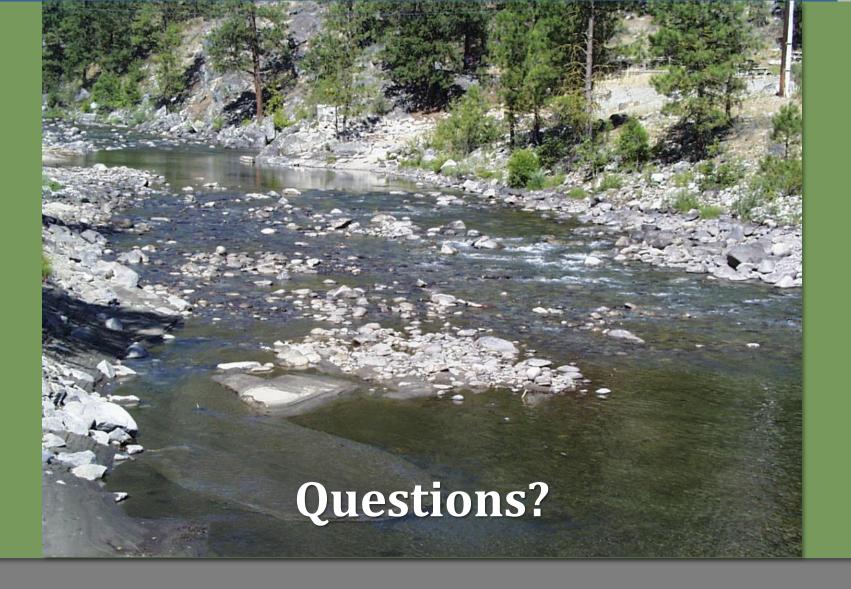
Decommissioning existing dams

Selling District water rights

## **SEPA Process Overview**

#### **Timeline**

- May 31, 2018 launch of Draft PEIS
- 60-day comment period, public hearing June 27
- July-August 2018: Meeting with Icicle Workgroup to get advice on Preferred Alternative
- October-November 2018: Goal to issue Final PEIS
- Winter 2018: Begin implementation of Preferred Alternative
  - Supplemental environmental review (and NEPA if necessary), permitting, design, construction



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