

**YRBWEP Work Group  
July 29, 2009 Workshop Comments**

**FISH PASSAGE**

- Major
  - Moving away from modifying flip flop. Need other solutions. Managed supply limits opportunities.
  - Sockeye reintroduction (need water) How?
  - Buffers from climate change
  - Only happen at selected reservoirs
  - Very important
  - Priorities
    - 1) Cle Elum
    - 2) Bumping
- (Upper Basins Critical)

**STRUCTURAL & OPERATIONAL CHANGES**

- Minor
- Flip flop-how much to moderate impacts?\*
- Opportunities that wouldn't affect agriculture supply but may affect hydro (e.g. Roza diversion)
- Need more tools in toolbox
- Discuss energy impacts (Reclamation/BPA)\*

**NEW OR EXPANDED (STORAGE/SUPPLY)  
(INCLUDE DIRECT PUMPING)**

- Major
- Challenging.
- Large Bumping option may be problematic for fish agencies, but open to discuss.
- Naches to balance out flip-flop effects
- For sockeye
- Additional supply is needed to address the multiple needs identified.
- Naches Arm improves tools for problem-solving.
- Provides value to Yakama Nation. Pro-ratables in Wapato Irrigation Project (WIP); & fisheries.
- Demand needs to meet 70% reliability
- What is the supply percentage needed by various entities.\*
- Other 6 elements are being done, and will be done. This is the one that's most uncertain and requires time and attention.
- Need enough new supply to meet needs, or why be here?
- Needed, for flow and passage
  - 1) sustain supply and uses already here, in face of climate change.
  - 2) Threat of snowpack loss in future. Need to replace.
- Headwater storage has high value (especially if climate changes).
- Mid-Basin storage also helps.
- Most agree the Basin does not have adequate supply currently.
- Consent decree contributes to supply limit.

\*Additional information needed.

## GROUNDWATER STORAGE

- Minor
- Need more detail or eliminate?
- EIS very general. Assess the potential. Check late winter recharge for summer discharge for flow + use.
- Floodplain expansion can help.
- There are opportunities...can be linked with habitat enhancement, e.g. at WIP,
- Know more about ground water opportunities than presented at the July 15 meeting\*
  - 1) Present additional information at next meeting?
  - 2) Municipal opportunities
  - 3) Other specific projects

## ENHANCED WATER CONSERVATION

- Minor (limited)
- Fund Thru YRBWEP (not address in this process)
- Formula. Look at Columbia Basin example.
- Split % with other funding
- Always good. Don't eliminate.-> climate change
- Don't take off table. Wapato Irrigation Project (WIP) is one place where may have opportunities (different "table")

## FISH HABITAT ENHANCEMENTS

- Major
- Create more complex floodplain habitat
- Managed supply limits benefits
- Can protect high value, thermal refugia.
- Sockeye would require a block of water. Implies storage enhancement.
- Easy. No oxen gored.
- Linked to other actions, e.g. fish passage.
- Yakama Nation can lead and invest in fisheries relative to treaty rights.

## MARKET BASED REALLOCATION

- Minor (limited)
- Need to know more about potential.\*
- Put sideboards and identify benefits and quantity\*
- Combine with conservation and groundwater (& perhaps no or limited storage)
- Already doing much of what can be done. Limits are approximately 15-35K AF.

\*Additional information needed.

## PROCESS COMMENTS

- Scorecard
- Benefit Comparison
- Tradeoffs among species. ->expanded supply adds flexibility to address.
- Minor (limited)
- Demonstrate we are managing water efficiently.
- Can a set of small actions or non-storage actions do the trick? Or need big actions to synergize small actions.
- Climate change-growing season.
- Integration connections
  - 1) Near term
  - 2) Long-term (good ideas)
  - 3) Adaptive program flexibility
- Dynamic process
  - 1) Greatest value
    - a) Benefit/Cost
    - b) Treaty Rights-fisheries
    - c) Community consensus
- Yakima Nation has irrigation needs as well as fisheries interest.
- To move forward
  - 1) Need to get people's questions addressed first.
  - 2) Identify any fatal flaws
  - 3) Identify "must haves."
  - 4) Define product we need to produce. Scope and scale of report/recommendation. What defines success.
  - 5) +Need to know how much water we need, where, and what for.
  - 6) Develop all the elements to advance them, rather than get tied into very specific goals.
  - 7) Define long-term demand/supply & how to bring together
- What is "integrated"?
  - 1) Need to look at more than storage.
  - 2) Synergy among projects
  - 3) Hit "sweet spot" of most of the main water related issues (comprehensive).
  - 4) Need all the tools in toolbox.
  - 5) Interconnected, interdependent, coordinated.
  - 6) Out of stream, & instream needs.
  - 7) Consistent elements which are all necessary, which are interconnected, mutually interdependent, and coordinated.
- Municipal demands are part of the process. Growth is and will occur.
- Ground water management generally for the Basin.
- Long-term with climate change impacts
- Public Input - Need private participation (fast, fair, simple)
- Fish passage - Bureau authority. Rep. Hastings letter says congressional approval is needed.