

# **YRBWEP Work Group Habitat Enhancement Subcommittee**

## **Work Plan**

### **Provide fish passage<sup>1</sup> to all historically accessible fish habitat in the Yakima Basin**

- 1) Upstream passage at passage barriers in tributaries and headwaters
- 2) Unimpeded downstream passage for fish
- 3) Adequate flow and water temperature to provide for fish passage in the mainstem Yakima and Naches

### **Protect and enhance tributary habitats**

- 1) Improve riparian conditions and instream complexity
- 2) Maintain and restore connections with floodplains and headwater meadows
- 3) Assure appropriate tributary flow regimes for fish needs

### **Protect and restore floodplain habitats on the mainstem Naches and Yakima**

- 1) Protection of functional floodplain habitats
- 2) Restoration of floodplain function in major floodplain reaches

### **Enhance habitat conditions on other mainstem Yakima and Naches reaches (in addition to major floodplain reaches)**

#### **1. Confirm Specific Geographic Objectives**

#### **2. Define Opportunities to Enhance Existing Authorities/Programs and Create New Programs as Necessary (September/October)**

Define 20 year program needs and develop recommended funding levels for the following:

- **Tributary Passage, Protection, and Habitat Restoration Program** (e.g. Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program)
- **Mainstem Passage Habitat Protection and Restoration Program** (e.g. YRBWEP, YKFP, Land Trusts)

Describe each program: existing efforts, benefits from increased funding, specify future project types<sup>2</sup> and actions to accomplish, geographic focus areas, estimated program costs (including program management??), and other relevant information.

Summarize information from sources relied upon for recommended program enhancements: Ecology Integrated Alternative EIS, Stanford, J., et. Al., 2002 Reaches Project report, and

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<sup>1</sup> Fish passage at existing reservoirs also addressed through a suggested goal specific to the Fish Passage Subcommittee proposed work plan.

<sup>2</sup> Not recommending developing detailed project lists at this time, but generally describe the type of projects and actions contained within the program.

others (*TBD*). Also, specify key information uncertainties. Lastly, characterize effects on water supply needs.

### **3. Develop Programmatic Habitat Enhancement Recommendations (September/October)**

Based upon work in Step 2 above, develop recommendations in a summary subcommittee report and present this report to the YRBWEP Work Group for consideration as the habitat enhancement element of the integrated package. The Work Group would evaluate the recommendations.

### **4. Identify Integrated Package Linkages and Refine Recommendations (October/November)**

This step would occur after the Work Group has identified and reached consensus on the elements and projects to include in the Integrated Package for the Water Supply/Flow track. Based upon the identified flow enhancements, then the subcommittee would characterize and recommend back to the Work Group the accompanying habitat enhancements, further refining the initial subcommittee recommendations.

#### **Subcommittee Suggested Schedule**

**September 16 Meeting**, 2-5 PM at Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board Office, 1110 W. Lincoln Avenue, Yakima WA

- Existing Programs and funding levels
- Future program and funding needs

**September 30 Meeting**, 9 AM to Noon, Yakima Basin Fish & Wildlife Recovery Board Office, 1110 W. Lincoln Avenue, Yakima WA

- Future program and funding needs (continued)
- Preliminary recommendations to Work Group

**October 9 Preliminary Draft Recommendations** – HDR email draft recommendations to subcommittee

**October 14 Conference Call**, 1-3 PM, to discuss Preliminary Draft Recommendations

**October 22 Work Group Meeting** – Subcommittee present draft recommendations to Work Group

**November (Date TBD)** – Meet or hold conference call to develop habitat enhancement linkage recommendations/refinements for Integrated Package

**November 23 Work Group Meeting** - Subcommittee present updated recommendations/refinements to Work Group