Objectives of Water Needs Assessment (Draft - updated)

On February 25 the subcommittee members reviewed an HDR handout with objectives and related issues, and preliminarily agreed to the following objectives to address in a needs assessment:

- Characterize/validate existing out of stream needs for agriculture and M&I, first under current conditions
- Then characterize/validate projected future out of stream needs for agriculture and M&I, looking at twenty year (2030) and fifty year (2060) scenarios
- Assess expected effects of climate change on water needs;
- Evaluate effects of farm lands converting to urban uses.
- Assess continued growth of permit-exempt wells.
- Assess water conservation effects.
- Assess growth of municipal systems without access to Yakima Project water (aiming towards supply solutions).

In conducting scenario analysis,

- Verify whether water management projects from the draft IWRMP are all needed (and by when)
- Verify whether water management projects are adequate to meet the Basin's needs (and for how long.)