

Yakima Basin Integrated Water Management Plan Workgroup
Yakima, WA
March 13, 2013

My name is Naydene Maykut. I was born in Yakima and raised in the Yakima Valley. My father, Van Nutley was an irrigation engineer in the Valley, serving as Manager of the Kennewick Irrigation District and later the Roza Irrigation District. I grew up with some appreciation of the issues at work here. I agree with the goals of the Workgroup as I would like to see “adequate” water for irrigation and the re-establishment of the salmon run.

However, I am strongly against the Bumping Lake Enlargement as part of this plan. Sifting through the Workgroup’s reports it becomes clear that the Bumping Lake Enlargement is not necessary. There are a myriad of other ways to get sufficient water that are not as expensive or as environmentally harmful. Furthermore, the Bumping Lake Enlargement hurts a lot of people.

I would like to introduce something that I have not found in your reports and that is a map of the destruction that would be caused by the Bumping lake Enlargement

The base map was taken from one of the Workgroup’s reports. In the center in the dark color is the present Bumping Lake when it is full. The yellow line is the boundary of the proposed lake when it is full. The proposed dam is in pink near the top of the map and the present dam is shown in blue and gray to the left and above the Sno-Park. The Wilderness boundary is shown in black and white and rivers and creeks are shown in blue. To make it a map of destruction, I have superimposed the names of some of the resources that will be destroyed forever by the Bumping Lake Enlargement.

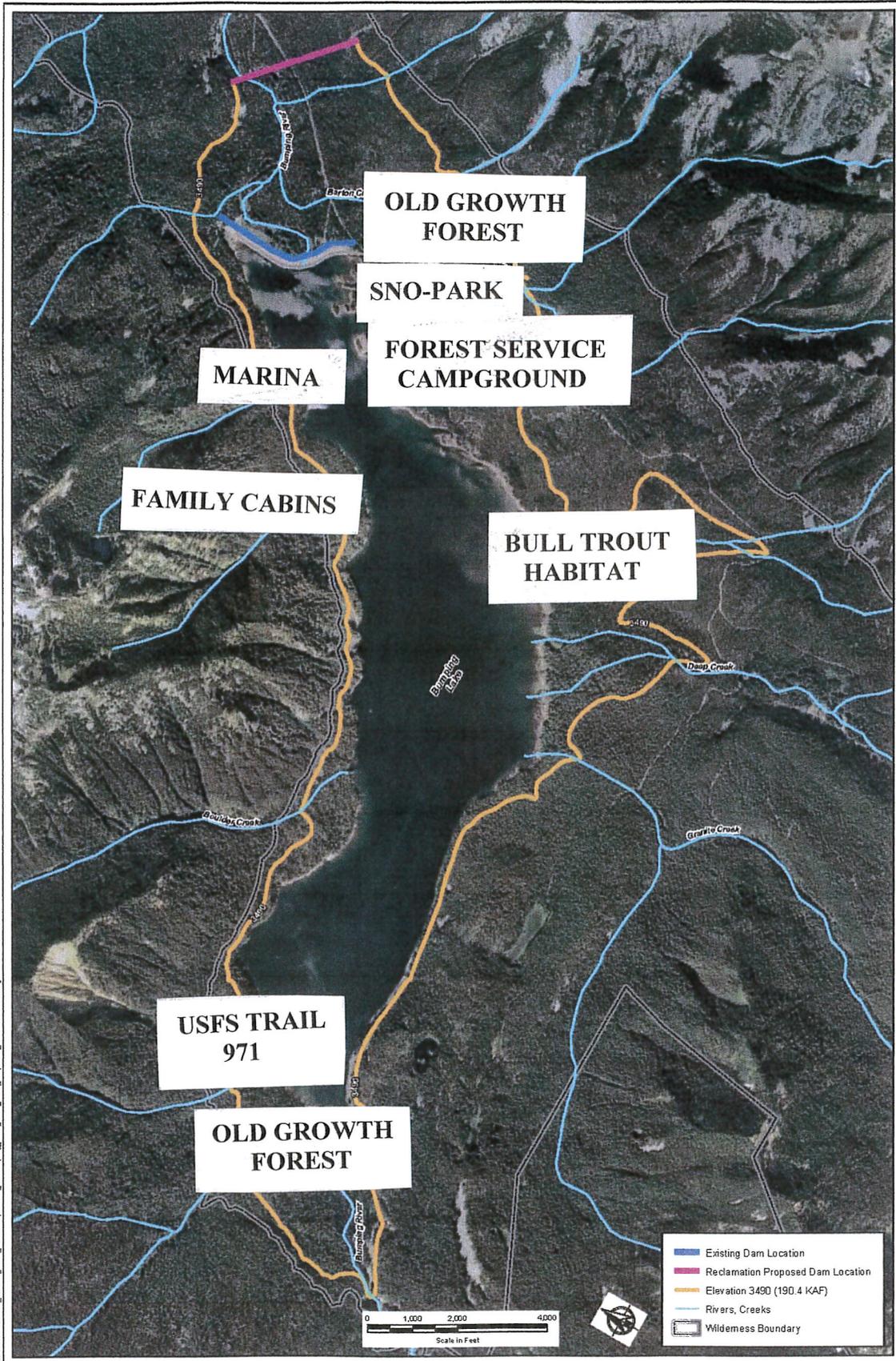
All of the land between the boundary of the present lake and the boundary of the proposed lake will have to be logged and everything within those two lines will be destroyed. Most of the time as water is drawn out of the lake the area between these two lines will be a large mudflat. I calculate that **at best** the proposed lake will be full only 17% of the time. Resources that will be destroyed include old-growth forest both north and south of the present lake, bull trout habitat near the center to the right or east side of the lake, and resources used by thousands of people including important forest trails on the west side of the lake

The family cabins on the west side of the lake are beloved by hundreds of people. Our cabin in particular has been in the family for 5 generations. Everyone I have ever loved has been there. Our cabin is so beloved that 3 family Weddings have been held there. This summer will be the structure’s 75th anniversary and the cabin is listed as both a State and National Heritage Site. My father’s ashes are scattered on Bumping Lake as was his wish. The ashes of a dear wonderful friend that died much too early in her twenties are also scattered there. I have requested that my ashes be scattered near the cabin when the time comes. Destroying these beloved cabins is not necessary and will bring a lot of grief to those of us who truly love it there.

We are not the only people who love Bumping Lake as it is. I paddled across the lake and talked to people in the Forest Service campground every time I was up there this last summer. Every person I spoke to was upset that the campground would be destroyed. It would be difficult to locate a new campground on either side of the new lake, and the Forest Service has stated it is “unlikely” another will ever be built. The people in the campground come from all over the State but mostly from the Yakima Valley. There are a precious few equivalent places within such easy access from the Yakima Valley. The Bumping Lake Enlargement would destroy a beloved camping and recreation place for thousands of people.

Thus I urge you to take the Bumping lake Enlargement out of your water management plan. It is not necessary, it is too expensive, it destroys precious environmental and community resources and it hurts thousands of people.

BUMPING LAKE ENLARGEMENT – MAP OF DESTRUCTION



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