

How Can I Provide Input?

Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS)

December 2011

As part of the public and agency involvement process under the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), you are invited to provide comments on the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan Draft PEIS. **The comment period began on November 18, 2011, and continues through January 3, 2012.**

All comments received during the comment period will be considered and addressed in the Final PEIS. The most effective comments will address specific details of the proposed Integrated Water Resource Management Plan and Draft PEIS, including components of the alternatives, analyses and methodologies, sources of information, and conclusions. Comments that are solution-oriented and provide specific examples are more meaningful than those that simply state opposition to an alternative or proposed element. Being clear, concise, relevant to the analysis, and as specific as possible in your comments will help us to better understand your concerns, improve the EIS and decisionmaking process, and provide meaningful responses.

We are seeking comments on this document and we would like your help! There are a variety of ways for you to participate in this process:

- ✓ **Attend** one of six public meetings (court reporter will be present to transcribe your comments):
 - **Cle Elum – December 5, 2011, 1:30-3:30 p.m., and 5-7 p.m. at the U.S. Forest Service Cle Elum Ranger District Office**
 - **Ellensburg – December 6, 2011, 1:30-3:30 p.m., and 5-7 p.m. at Hal Holmes Center**
 - **Yakima – December 14, 2011, 1:30-3:30 p.m., and 5-7 p.m. at the Yakima Arboretum**

- ✓ **Mail** written scoping comments, requests to be added to the mailing list, and/or requests for a scoping document to:

Bureau of Reclamation, Columbia-Cascades Area Office
Attention: Candace McKinley, Environmental Program Manager
1917 Marsh Road
Yakima WA 98901

- ✓ **E-mail** comments to yrbwep@usbr.gov

- ✓ **Fax** comments to 509-454-5650

- ✓ **Telephone** comments to be recorded at (509) 575-5848, ext. 613.

Then What Happens?

- ✓ A **Final PEIS will be prepared.** Notice of the availability of the Final PEIS will be published in the Federal Register and local newspapers prior to release of the document, which is anticipated for March 2012. A Record of Decision may be prepared by the Bureau of Reclamation not sooner than 30 days after the Final PEIS is issued.