

# EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) will guide implementation of strategies, actions, programs and management activities identified in the Watershed Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 35 *Middle Snake Watershed Plan* (PLAN), which was completed in August of 2007. The WRIA 35 DIP is comprehensive and fulfills the requirement of the Watershed Planning Act (WPA), Revised Code of Washington (RCW) 90.82.043 and RCW 90.82.048, as well as the requirements of the agreement with the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board (SRSRB) and Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology).

WRIA's are described in Chapter 173-100 Washington Administrative Code (WAC). The Middle Snake Watershed is denoted as WRIA 35 and includes approximately 2,250 square miles in southeastern Washington along the Idaho border to the east and Oregon border to the south. The Palouse Watershed (WRIA 34) lies to the north, and the Walla Walla Watershed (WRIA 32) and Lower Snake Watershed (WRIA 33) lie to the west. The Middle Snake Watershed encompasses portions of Whitman and Columbia and all of Asotin, and Garfield Counties within Washington. Diamond Peak, located in the headwaters of the Tucannon River, is the highest point in the basin with an elevation of 6,380 feet, while the confluence of the Snake and Tucannon Rivers is the lowest point at approximately 540 feet. The City of Clarkston and towns of Starbuck, Pomeroy, and Asotin are also located within WRIA 35.

The WRIA 35 Middle Snake Watershed Plan was approved by the WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Unit and then adopted by the Asotin, Whitman, Garfield and Columbia County Boards of Commissioners in August 2007. Working in concert with local landowners involved in forestry, agriculture, cattle, and range practices as well as citizens and local, state, federal and tribal governments enabled us to discuss complex resource issues and come to consensus on important issues throughout the WRIA. The Planning Units efforts were guided by the following mission statement:

“Treat water as a valuable resource through the development and implementation of a watershed plan consistent with RCW 90.82 for the beneficial management of water resources to balance the present and future needs of local rural and urban communities, agriculture and other industries, fish and wildlife, and tribal communities and treaty rights.”

The WRIA 35 Plan contains obligations and recommendations that provide solutions and strategies for short-term and long-term water resource management within the WRIA. The Plan is an informed up-to-date effort to balance water supply and demand and to provide a cooperative grass roots process for local and state agencies to continue to work together with local citizens to manage the water resources within WRIA 35. Crucial components of the Plan include:

- Setting Minimum Instream Flows for Asotin Creek and Tucannon River;
- Monitoring stream flows, assessing instream habitat, and conducting ground water studies for future instream flow and groundwater management recommendations;
- Managing water resources by balancing the instream and out-of-stream needs within the WRIA.

This DIP describes a consensus based process to accomplish the strategies of the WRIA 35 Plan. It also includes cost estimates, schedules, possible funding sources and proposed leads for projects and programs agreed to by the Planning Unit. The DIP builds upon the successful consensus based process described in the WRIA 35 Plan as well as numerous other prior planning and implementation processes that have occurred at the watershed level in the Asotin, Pataha and Tucannon portions of the WRIA.

The WRIA 35 Plan represents the culmination of previous and on-going planning and implementation processes. Currently there are more than three planning and implementation process that are either on-going or completed. With Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) funding there have been “Model Watershed Plans” completed and implemented in the Asotin, Pataha and Tucannon watersheds in the late 90’s. Additionally, Subbasin Plans were completed for Asotin, Lower Snake and Tucannon Watersheds in 2004 and the actions and recommendations are being implemented for anadromous salmonid habitat protection and restoration with funding from Bonneville Power Administration (BPA) and other funding sources. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board (SRFB) has required regional boards to complete salmon recovery plans. The Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan was adopted in 2005 with a Summary revision completed in 2007 with updated actions and priority areas. The Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan is supported with state and federal funding. Habitat protection and restoration projects are being funded and coordinated throughout WRIA 35 with Washington’s SRFB and various other funding sources.

The WRIA 35 DIP is focused on instream flow, water quality and quantity in accordance with the Middle Snake Watershed Plan which represents a holistic approach (ridge-top-to-ridge-top) to watershed restoration. This DIP includes actions and strategies that promote protection and possible enhancement of instream flow and, water quality and quantity and builds upon restoration work that has occurred over the past 16 plus years within watersheds throughout WRIA 35.

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# ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

The WRIA 35 Detailed Implementation Plan was developed over a 12 month period, following the approval and adoption of Middle Snake Watershed Plan in August of 2007. Almost all of the original members of the WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Unit (including State, Federal and Tribal participants), citizens who voluntarily participated in the development of the Plan, continued on with their dedicated participation, to complete the DIP.

The individuals listed below have committed time and energy into numerous planning and implementation processes within WRIA 35. Their dedication and patience has been appreciated. Without the “grass roots” participation this process would not have been able to achieve consensus on sensitive water resource issues within the WRIA.

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## Middle Snake Watershed Planning Unit - Participation List - Phase IV and DIP Development

Don Nuxoll, Asotin PUD Commissioner - Co-Chair  
Don Howard, Tucannon watershed Landowner - Co-Chair  
Janet Howard, Tucannon watershed Landowner  
Tim Simpson, Asotin PUD General Manager  
Bradley Johnson, Asotin PUD – Watershed Planning Director  
Cheryl Sonnen, Asotin County & Cities of Asotin and Clarkston Stormwater Coordinator  
Sandy Cunningham, Asotin County Conservation District (ACCD)  
Terry Bruegman, Columbia Conservation District (CCD)  
Duane Bartels, Pomeroy Conservation District (PCD)  
Butch Klaveano, Garfield County Commissioner  
Dick Jones, Columbia County Commissioner  
Dick Ducharme, Columbia County Landowner  
Michael Largent, Whitman County Commissioner  
Doug Mattoon, Asotin County Commissioner  
Jerry Hendrickson, Landowner – Asotin County Conservation District  
Harold Thompson, Landowner – Asotin County Weed Board  
Stan Wilson, Citizen – Asotin County Sportsmen Association  
Joe Lemire, Asotin and Columbia County Landowner  
Del Groat, US Forest Service – Pomeroy Ranger District  
Bill Dowdy, US Forest Service – Pomeroy Ranger District  
Kris Buelow, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board  
Steve Martin, Snake River Salmon Recovery Board  
Dave Karl, Washington State Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Bill Neve, Washington State Department of Ecology  
Mimi Wainwright, Washington State Department of Ecology  
Emmit E. Taylor, Jr. – Nez Perce Tribe Watershed Division  
Jed Volkman – Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation (CTUIR)

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# INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND

The Middle Snake Watershed is denoted as WRIA 35. Washington State Watershed Planning (RCW 90.82) requires the development of Detailed Implementation Plans (DIP). The WRIA 35 DIP is comprehensive, and will help guide the implementation of actions, programs and management activities identified in the PLAN. This WRIA level DIP for the Middle Snake watershed also fulfills the requirements of the agreement with the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board (SRSRB) and Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology).

The State of Washington's Watershed Planning program offers tools designed to provide local guidance in identifying, prioritizing and developing solutions to water resource management issues within the State's 62 Water Resource Inventory Areas (WRIA). The WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Unit utilized these tools and completed the Middle Snake Watershed Plan (August 2007).

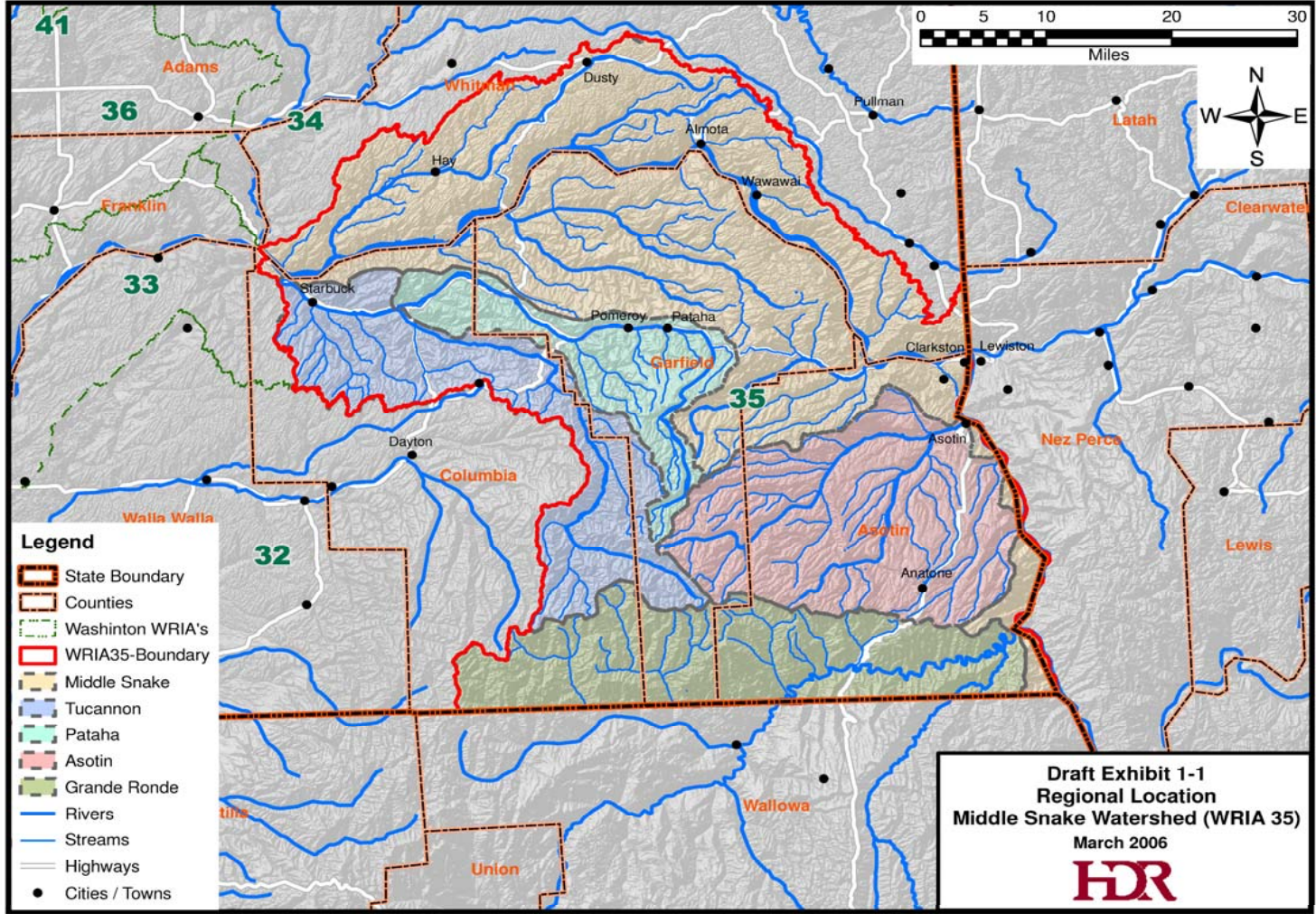
This document presents the DIP for the Middle Snake Watershed. This DIP was completed in the first year of Phase IV Implementation, in accordance with the Watershed Planning Act, Chapter 90.82 RCW. The purpose of this DIP is to:

1. Guide implementation of the WRIA 35 Middle Snake Watershed Management Plan; and
2. Meet requirements per RCW 90.82.043 and RCW 90.82.048

WRIA 35 occupies approximately 2,250 square miles in southeastern Washington along the Idaho border to the east and Oregon border to the south. The Palouse Watershed (WRIA 34) lies to the north, and the Walla Walla Watershed (WRIA 32) and Lower Snake Watershed (WRIA 33) lie to the west. Exhibit 1-1 shows the regional location of WRIA 35. The Middle Snake Watershed encompasses portions of Whitman and Columbia and all of Asotin, and Garfield Counties within Washington. Diamond Peak, located in the headwaters of the Tucannon River, is the highest point in the basin with an elevation of 6,380 feet, while the confluence of the Snake and Tucannon Rivers is the lowest point at approximately 540 feet. The City of Clarkston and towns of Starbuck, Pomeroy, and Asotin are also located within WRIA 35.

The Middle Snake River Basin is within the Columbia Basin and Blue Mountain ecoregions and is nearly 1.5 million acres in size. Land use is approximately 50 percent rangeland, 33 percent agriculture, 15 percent forestland and 1 percent urban. The population is less than 25,000. Population growth projections for the area are expected to reach 33,000 by 2020, which represents a low density over the extent of the geographic area, yet nonetheless represents a future need.

The WRIA 35 planning area includes federally-listed Threatened and Endangered Species, including fall Chinook, spring/summer Chinook, steelhead and bull trout. Known and presumed presence (including spawning, rearing and migration) for key species are indicated in the Table 1-1.



**Table 1-1 Listed Fish Species in WRIA 35**

Species	Federal Status	State Status	Known and presumed presence within WRIA 35
Snake River Spring/Summer Chinook Salmon	Threatened (Listed April 1992)	Species of concern	Tucannon River, Asotin Creek, Snake River and Grande Ronde River
Snake River Fall Chinook Salmon	Threatened (Listed April 1992)	Species of concern	Mainstem Snake River and the mouths of Tenmile Creek-Couse Creek, Tucannon River, Asotin Creek, and Grande Ronde subbasins.
Steelhead Trout	Threatened (Listed June 1998)	Species of concern	Tucannon River (*includes Pataha, Penawawa, Alkali Flat, Deadman, and Meadow creeks, Palouse River) Asotin Creek (Almota, Tenmile, Steptoe, Couse, Alpowa and Wawawai creeks), Grande Ronde River (Joseph, Rattlesnake, Cottonwood, Menachee, Wenachee Creeks)
Bull Trout	Threatened (Listed June 1998)	Species of concern	Grande Ronde, Asotin Creek, Tucannon River, mainstem Snake River

(SRSRP October 2005)

\* Based on Populations for De-Listing

## WRIA 35 Implementation Areas

For the purposes of watershed management, the following five distinct Implementation Areas make up WRIA 35:

- Asotin Creek Implementation Area
- Middle Snake River Implementation Area
- Pataha Creek Implementation Area
- Tucannon River Implementation Area
- Grande Ronde Subbasin Implementation Area

Implementation Areas were formed based on variations in land use, habitat, and hydrologic characteristics within the WRIA. See the Level I Technical Assessment (HDR-EES 2005), Grande Ronde Addendum (HDR-EES 2005) and WRIA 35 Middle Snake Watershed Plan (HDR 2007) [http://www.asotinpod.org/msww/ms\\_documents.htm](http://www.asotinpod.org/msww/ms_documents.htm) for more complete descriptions and maps of the Implementation Areas listed above.

## *Watershed Planning Act Background*

The Watershed Planning Act (Chapter 90.82 RCW) was passed by the Washington State Legislature in 1998 (and amended in 2003) to provide a forum for citizens to develop and implement locally based solutions for watershed issues. Twelve Washington State agencies entered into a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) identifying roles and responsibilities for coordination under the act. This MOU commits these agencies to work through issues in order to speak with one governmental voice when sitting with Planning Units. The Watershed Planning Act does not give local Planning Units the authority to change existing laws, alter water rights or treaty rights, or require any party to take an action unless that party agrees. However, it does provide the Planning Unit flexibility in guiding the planning process and developing and implementing strategies for managing water resources.

Grant funding through the Washington State Legislature is available for watersheds that elect to initiate Watershed Planning to develop and implement a Watershed Plan through four phases:

1. Phase I – Organize a Watershed Planning Unit; (~ 1 year)
2. Phase II – Assess exiting conditions and develop technical assessments of water resources; (~ 2 years)
3. Phase III – Develop and adopt a Watershed Plan; and, (~ 2 years)
4. Phase IV – Develop implementation plan and address Watershed Plan actions. (5 years)

In January of 2002 WRIA 35 began an effort to address watershed planning concerns within our WRIA. With certainty that Ecology would begin setting instream flows in WRIA 35 tributaries, the Asotin County Conservation District (ACCD) along with the Asotin County Public Utility District (PUD) led the effort for the process of completing a watershed plan with the intention of assessing minimum instream flows. Meetings with Ecology and Initiating Governments were held and in April of 2002, the initiating governments, Asotin, Garfield, Columbia and Whitman counties, the City of Clarkston (the largest city) and PUD (largest water purveyor) passed resolutions supporting the Watershed Planning process and designated the PUD as Lead Agency for WRIA 35.

**Deleted:** the PUD to become the lead agency and began

In August of 2002, funding for Phase I of watershed planning was approved by Ecology. With WRIA 35 in its initial phase, all initiating entities met and discussed the scope of work and the process of developing memorandums of agreements (MOA's). Work began immediately on identifying a consultant to provide services for Phase I. Phase I of Watershed Planning in WRIA 35 entailed developing MOA's with initiating entities, coordinating with the Nez Perce Tribe and Confederated Tribe of the Umatilla Indian Reservation, public participation and education and the development of the scope of work for Phase II.

In January of 2003, WRIA 35 held its first meeting to develop MOA's, organizational structure, the operating and ground rules, mission statement and initial planning objectives and the Phase II scope of work. It was decided at this meeting that WRIA 35 would address all elements of the watershed planning process; water quality, water quantity, habitat and instream flow.

The Phase II application was submitted in April 2003. Also in April 2003, the MOA supporting Watershed Planning was signed identifying the Initiating Governments as Asotin, Garfield, Columbia and Whitman counties, the City of Clarkston and the PUD. In addition, during this timeframe the Planning Unit applied for funding to place 14 stream gauges in tributaries for future instream flow assessment. Phase I was completed in June of 2003.

In August of 2003 work began on Phase II with the development of Level 1 Technical Assessment, Instream Flow Assessment, Water Quality Assessment, Habitat Assessment and Multi-purpose Storage Assessment. In addition, during this period the Planning Unit received a grant from Ecology to develop a water storage project. A technical assessment of the Washington portion of the Grande Ronde River was also completed. In May 2005, the Planning Unit hired a Watershed Planning Director. Phase II was completed in June 2005.

Supported by Phase II technical work, the Planning Unit identified water resource issues they felt needed to be addressed. Work on Phase III – Middle Snake Watershed Plan development began in July of 2005. The WRIA 35 Middle Snake Watershed Plan was approved by the Planning Unit in June of 2007. At a joint county commissioners meeting in August of 2007, Asotin, Garfield, Columbia and Whitman County Commissioners formally adopted the Watershed Plan. In September of 2007, WRIA 35 began work on Phase IV (Implementation Phase), which includes the completion of the DIP during the first year.

### *Oversight and Coordination*

The DIP according to RCW 90.82.043[3], “must clearly define coordination and oversight responsibilities.” The DIP identifies project/program leads, supporting entities and potential sources of funding (Appendix A). The WRIA 35 Planning Unit plays an important role providing implementation priorities, approval of contractor selections, development of funding guidelines for project sponsors, approval of scopes of work, and project review and ranking. The Planning Unit will ensure revisions to the WRIA 35 Middle Snake Management Plan and DIP are consistent with other local planning and implementation processes. The DIP was adopted by resolution as an addendum to the Middle Snake Watershed Plan by Asotin, Garfield, Columbia and Whitman County Commissioners.

The WRIA 35 Middle Snake Watershed Plan and DIP identifies project obligations and recommendations with project sponsors either being in the Lead or Support Role (Appendix B). The difference between an obligation and recommendation rests with the entity’s ability to agree to a commitment per RCW 90.82.130[3]. Private land projects for the most part are designated as recommendations with volunteer participation being preferred for project implementation. There are obligations that the State has agreed to in the Plan (Appendix B). Whether or not a project sponsor is in the Lead or Support role depends on project type and location. Local agencies/entities such as conservation district are usually in a Lead role when projects are proposed on private land. State, Federal and Tribal entities are more likely to be project Leads when proposing work on state and/or federal property. The WRIA 35 Plan recognizes the previous and on-going work as well as the working relationships being vital to future project success. Without local partnerships, many components of the Plan could not be successfully implemented.



### *Options for Organization after Phase IV*

Funding under the Watershed Planning Act (Chapter 90.82 RCW) as currently written, will end for WRIA 35 in August of 2012, concluding 5 years of the Implementation Phase. Without legislative extension, Plan Implementation will be the responsibility of the Lead Agency (Asotin PUD) and the WRIA 35 Planning Unit to establish an organizational structure to continue Planning Unit ~~designated~~ water resource implementation and adaptive management in WRIA 35 after Phase IV Year 5. Projects that have been identified in the Plan are best implemented by local entities and having a structure that supports and builds upon local partnerships will continue to be a priority as water quantity, quality, instream flow and habitat projects are implemented and success and/or failures are tracked and reported.

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### *Approval and Update Schedule for Detailed Implementation Plan*

The DIP was approved by the WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Unit in September 2008 and sent to the Asotin, Garfield, Whitman and Columbia County Commissioners for their approval at their regularly scheduled County Commissioners meetings as an addendum to the previously adopted Middle Snake Watershed Plan. The approved DIP will have an annual review. Strategies/actions may be added and removed with Planning Unit consensus. The DIP is not intended to be a stand alone document. Periodic review of both the DIP and Middle Snake Watershed Plan will occur in the immediate future with adaptive management being used in areas identified by the Planning Unit. To enhance efficiencies this effort may be in concert with additional/supporting planning efforts for consistency and reduction of duplication of effort.

# IMPLEMENTATION APPROACH AND FRAMEWORK

This section describes the Planning Units approach to project implementation of the WRIA 35 Plan. The WRIA 35 Planning Unit will facilitate and serve as a point of contact for the public to provide information and education on local projects within the WRIA. Public participation, outreach and coordination are important to the WRIA 35 Planning Unit members.

Coordinating with other entities and elimination of duplication is important to all participants. Priority strategies/actions, relative costs, schedules, funding sources and partners as well as proposed leads are identified in Appendix A.

## Snake River Salmon Recovery – A Regional Approach

The Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan (SRSRP) was approved in October 2005 by the Snake River Salmon Recovery Board, which is comprised of elected officials and stakeholders from the counties of Walla Walla, Columbia, Garfield, Asotin and Whitman and the Confederated Tribes of the Umatilla Indian Reservation. The SRSRP was submitted to the Governor of the State of Washington in October 2005. The Governor accepted the plan and subsequently submitted it to National Marine Fisheries Service (NMFS) as the recovery plan for Snake River steelhead and spring Chinook, as well as the recovery plan for Mid Columbia steelhead that occupy habitats in the Snake River salmon recovery region. NMFS adopted the Plan in March 2006.

**Deleted:** The SRSRB coordinates regional salmon recovery efforts, in cooperation with the WRIA 32 and 35 Planning Units. Its administrative structure includes a director, administrative assistant, project coordinator, executive committee, budget committee, regional technical team (RTT), and lead entity program.

### *Coordination with Salmon Recovery Planning*

The WRIA 35 Watershed Plan’s Habitat component was assembled primarily from the assessments developed in subbasin planning. Many of these same assessments were used to develop the SRSRP. An intended outcome of this approach was to ensure that the three plans (SRSRP, WRIA 35 Watershed Plan, and Subbasin Plan) were coordinated and integrated. Future plan updates to the Watershed Plan will reflect the strategies, actions and priorities in the SRSRP and vice versa and will coordinate with local cities and counties to integrate salmon recovery goals in land use updates and development of water use strategies. [Insert Habitat Project List Cheryl’s Text](#)

**Deleted:** *Habitat Projects List*  
The SRSRB will, in cooperation with natural resource agency management partners, maintain and update the SRSRP, using an adaptive management approach to implementation. As part of this effort, the SRSRB will maintain a list of projects completed, scheduled for completion, and those remaining to be completed in a 3 Year Habitat List (Appendix C). The habitat list will inform the public, elected officials and agencies and coordinated and update with WRIA 35 priority projects.

### *Eliminate Duplication and Inconsistencies*

In accordance with RCW 90.82.043[4], during the development of the DIP the WRIA 35 Planning Unit “must consult with other entities planning in the watershed management area and identify and seek to eliminate any activities or policies that are duplicative or inconsistent.”

WRIA 35 resource and recovery planning efforts include NPCC/BPA Subbasin Planning, WDFW/SRFB Lead Entity process and Ecology’s Watershed Planning. Since the beginning of endangered species listings in Southeastern Washington, it has been a priority of local citizen and technical representatives to reduce and/or eliminate to the extent possible duplication of effort.

Most of the agencies/entities working in watershed planning arenas have small staffs and work to maximize their participation to reduce duplication, as it benefits them as well as landowners and others who volunteer their participation. The Planning Unit membership represents a broad range of water/resource interests. Many also participate in the other planning and technical review committees. This ensures minimal duplication and inconsistencies with both the planning and implementation phase of watershed implementation actions throughout the WRIA. Technical members, County Commissioners, Conservation District staff, planning and implementing staff, and citizen members are the same for all the processes within the WRIA and also the Snake River Region. This provides continuity between programs and reduces duplication and inconsistencies with both the planning and implementation phases of watershed implementation actions throughout the WRIA.

### *Agreements, Approvals and Permits*

In accordance with RCW 90.82.043[3], the DIP “must clearly define...any needed interlocal agreements, rules or ordinances; any needed state or local administrative approvals and permits that must be secured.”

The agreements, approvals and permits necessary to implement the WRIA 35 Plan and DIP will be assessed by the Planning Unit on a project-by-project basis. Currently there are no ordinances required for successful implementation, but may be recommended to support implementation. The Asotin, Garfield, Whitman and Columbia County Commissioners by Resolution have supported the DIP and it is consistent with the WRIA 35 Plan.

Permits required from federal, state or local agencies to implement projects from the WRIA 35 Plan and DIP will be determined on a project-by-project basis and will be the responsibility of the project sponsor or implementing agency/entity. We anticipate projects being run through the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) when applicable and through the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) if federal funding provided.

# IMPLEMENTATION FUNDING APPROACH

## Priority Strategies

Successful implementation of the WRIA 35 Middle Snake Watershed Plan requires a clear set of strategies and actions that are based on technical criteria and broad community support (Appendix A). This section of the DIP provides the technical basis and process that resulted in the priority strategy types. The watershed funding process presented in this document represents the latest effort by the Planning Unit. The process will likely be refined during Phase IV Implementation as funding is granted and projects are implemented.

This section will address RCW 90.82.043[2] “Each implementation plan must contain strategies to provide sufficient water for: (a) production agriculture; (b) commercial, industrial, and residential use; and, (c) instream flows.”

Strategies or actions that have been prioritized by the Planning Unit and interested citizens, landowners, and water rights holders is our first effort within WRIA 35 at ranking strategies that address instream flow and water quantity. Water quality, quantity and instream habitat projects have been scored, ranked and completed in the past under different watershed bases processes/programs. The Planning Unit recognizes that there are insufficient resources available to the Planning Unit address all the strategies in the short term and there are instances where implementation relies upon the completion of other actions and additional supplemental implementation funding by other entities.

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## *Timelines*

The timelines for all implementation strategies are included in Appendix A. The timelines were identified by the Planning Unit members for each strategy. On-Going, 2010, and 2015 are the most common with the goal being completion of most strategies by 2015, there are some that may go out to 2020. It is the intent of the Planning Unit to get projects completed and action documented in the SRSRB 3-Year Habitat Work Plan.

The Planning Unit agreed to use the Preliminary Screening, Scoring and Ranking Criteria for projects developed and proposed from the strategies in Appendix A. As an example the Phase IV Year 2 DRAFT Implementation Criteria is attached in Appendix D. It will be refined and updated during each funding cycle, but it shows how the Planning Unit will call for projects, timelines for applying and submitting an application and criteria that will be used to score and rank individual project proposals for possible funding with Phase IV funding from Ecology.

## WRIA 35 Watershed Plan

Funding at the watershed level, through the Watershed Plan implementation process, will be managed by the Planning Unit. At this time, the following funding agencies are encouraged to utilize the local watershed process for prioritizing and ranking projects for WRIA 35 Planning Unit dedicated funding:

- Washington State Department of Ecology - Phase IV WRIA Implementation Grants

Other State and Federal agencies with mandates and interests in funding projects with dedicated WRIA 35 Planning Unit funding that meet/support watershed-specific priorities will be encouraged to utilize the watershed process outlined in this implementation plan.

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### *Community Preferences*

The WRIA 35 Watershed Plan includes lists of proposed actions that support the goals and objectives for five implementation areas within the watershed (Appendix A). Community values and opinions are represented in the composition of the WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Unit. It is imperative that the community understand and support actions identified for implementation at the WRIA scale.

### *Watershed Prioritization Process*

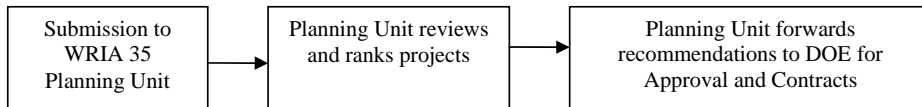
The WRIA 35 Planning Unit provides an important continued role in project solicitation, review, prioritization, implementation and contract administration of funds dedicated to the WRIA 35 Watershed Planning process.

The watershed funding process presented in this document represents the latest effort by the Planning Unit. This process may be refined/modified dependent on grant and other funding sources and required criteria per funding source. Project proponents should contact Asotin County PUD for current grant funding opportunities, applications and criteria.

Currently, Ecology has two primary grant funding sources available to WRIA Planning Units for implementation of plan actions: Watershed Planning Grants and Watershed Plan Implementation and Flow Achievement Grants.

## *WRIA Project Review and Ranking*

Project implementers seeking funding through WRIA 35 will utilize the application developed for the Phase IV Watershed Implementation Grant.



The Planning Unit will receive copies of the project proposals to review. Evaluation criteria will be used as a means to maximize fairness, minimize potential for bias, provide guidance and otherwise assist in the prioritization of Middle Snake watershed Phase IV funding allocations. Proposal will be scored and ranked on a template/score sheet. The template may vary between funding years but shall address at a minimum:

- Existing approved long range implementation plans such as this Detailed Implementation Plan, WRIA 35 Middle Snake Watershed Plan, Snake River Salmon Recovery Plan, Asotin, Tucannon, Lower Snake River Subbasin Plans, etc.;
- Technical merit, including biological as applicable;
- Ease of implementation;
- Cost-effectiveness of each project and
- Degree of project certainty.

The template may also address grant specific requirements, limitations in funding, landowner contract signatures for participation, or federal, state and local permitting issues.

Planning Unit members will not rank projects that they are affiliated with. For projects where the committee member has an affiliation, a score equal to the average of that given by the other members will be assigned as their score for the project. Planning Unit members shall be considered “affiliated with” a project if any of the following apply:

- Member or an immediate family member has a personal financial interest in the project;
- Any organization they are associated with in a formal way (such as an employee or board member) is a sponsor or has a financial interest in the project; and
- They are the project sponsor or applicant.

The Planning Unit will encourage project sponsors to propose project consistent with the DIP and recommend to Ecology funding projects in the order they are ranked.

The Planning Unit has developed a DRAFT application and format for the funding available through the Phase IV Watershed Implementation Grant.

## Funding Mechanisms

This section addresses the requirement for the DIP to define “specific funding mechanisms” (per RCW 90.82.043[3] for implementation of the WRIA 35 Watershed Management Plan priority actions. The following funding has been considered: 1) Phase IV Implementation grant funds; 2) other WRIA 35 Planning Unit dedicated grant funding; 3) other general grant funding, and 4) cost-share from project sponsors (implementing agencies/entities) and/or landowner match.

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The WRIA 35 Planning Unit recognized that implementation is subject to funding constraints and that no entity is obligated to implement actions unless adequate funding is available. Realizing that Watershed Planning funds are limited, most of the priority actions will be completed utilizing alternative grant sources.

Phase IV Watershed Planning Implementation funding provided by the State Legislature includes \$100,000 for the first three years, with the local match required at 10%. The DIP has to be completed in the first year to be eligible for subsequent year funding. At the end of the third year, up to \$50,000 is available for the fourth and fifth years of implementation, with a 10% local match.

The implementation tables in Appendix A provide a summary of WRIA 35 Middle Snake priority actions and the entities that have committed to complete these recommendations contingent upon available funding. The specific funding mechanisms provided in the tables have not all been secured, but previous and on-going planning and implementation by these entities make them the best choice for certain project types. An overview of some of the on-going and identified funding commitments includes;

1. Ecology has provided Phase IV Year 1 funds for Implementation, \$100,000 and an additional \$39,000 for Watershed Planning Unit Support. \$59,000 of the total was identified for on-the-ground projects and assessments (irrigation efficiencies, cobble embeddedness and instream habitat assessment projects).
2. The Snake River Salmon Recovery Board has provided \$30,000 for administrative support to the WRIA 35 Planning Unit to ensure that coordination between plans occurred.
3. Ecology has provided \$300,000 for a HydroGeo Study in the Asotin, Tenmile and Alpowa Creek watersheds to better understand surface and ground water uses and interactions for future instream flow rule making exercises.
4. Ecology provided \$70,000 for stream flow gauging, both for continuous and staff gauges monitoring stream flow data for future instream flow setting exercises.
5. Ecology and WDFW will continue to provide technical assistance with instream flow and HydroGeo assessments for future instream flow setting and rule making exercise.

6. Conservation Districts within WRIA 35 may continue to pursue/secure project funding to support and/or continue their respective on-going habitat and restoration projects. These project implementation efforts will target District Short and Long Range Planning efforts in most cases but contribute to and are consistent with Plan strategy and action implementation identified in Appendix A.
7. Other specific grants may be available through Ecology and Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife.
8. Federal funding sources for monitoring, pollution prevention and control, watershed and drinking water source protection, wetland and wildfire. These funding sources are compiled in EPA's *Catalog of Federal Funding Sources for Watershed Protection*.
9. Centennial Clean Water 319 Funds available through Ecology and Conservation Districts.
10. The Northwest Power and Conservation Council funding for habitat protection and restoration projects through the Bonneville Power Administration (BPA).
11. The Salmon Recovery Funding Board funding for habitat protection and restoration projects through the Recreation and Conservation Office (RCO).

#### *Other Funding Review and Ranking*

Other funding entities may choose to utilize the watershed review and ranking process, depending on the funding cycle, project type and their ability to dedicate funds to the Planning Unit. Final agency decisions would also be contingent on specific laws, rules and regulations (i.e., cost share requirements, etc) governing the allocation of specific funding.

The Planning Unit will work with other state and federal agencies that dedicate funds and formally engage the WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Unit review process in their funding of local watershed efforts, to encourage consistency and efficiency in meeting local priorities.



## MUNICIPAL WATER USE IN WRIA 35

This section of the DIP meets the requirements of RCW 90.82.048 and to address the planned future use of inchoate municipal water rights, including how these rights will be used “to meet the projected needs identified in the watershed plan, and how the use of these rights will be addressed when implementing instream flow strategies identified in the watershed plan”.

### *Municipal Water Rights*

In June 2008, King County Superior Court ruled that three sections {RCW 90.03.015(3) and (4) and RCW 90.03.330(3)} of the 2003 Municipal Water Law were unconstitutional. The decision is under appeal, so there is a degree of uncertainty regarding the statutory definitions of “municipal water supplier”. The 2003 definition of an inchoate municipal water right is that portion of a municipal water right that has not been put to beneficial use but is in good standing. Under that 2003 definition, municipal water rights were not subject to relinquishment (RCW 90.14.140(2)(d)). The sections of the DIP that relate to the Municipal Water Law, will be updated when there is more certainty regarding the court’s decision.

### *Municipal Water Rights in WRIA 35*

The WRIA 35 Watershed Planning Unit sent letters and followed up with personal visits to all Group A and B water providers within the WRIA (Appendix E). We received responses from 6 of the 10 contacted water providers in WRIA 35. It should be noted that the estimates of water rights presented in this DIP are based on information provided voluntarily by the water providers and does not constitute an official examination of the entity’s water right.

<b>Water System ID</b>	<b>Water Provider</b>	<b>Number of Connections</b>	<b>Estimated Water Rights (Acre Feet/Year)</b>
99343E	PUD #1 of Asotin County	6,260	23,445
03250Q	City of Asotin	544	417
684007	City of Pomeroy	739	746
	City of Starbuck	88	
SP140Q	Camp Wooten State Park	22	17
	Last Resort	37	
	Central Ferry Park	84	90
	Chief Timothy Park	49	14.7
03980D	Bakers Pond Water Users	23	
	Grande Ronde Ranches #1	15	

With reference to the Water Rights table above and for sufficient rights to meet anticipated year 2026 needs were identified as follows:

- The City of Asotin is at or near its water right currently and future growth will be dependant on securing additional water rights either by buying water from Asotin PUD or getting additional ground water right from DOE.
- The City of Pomeroy's wells impacts on Pataha Creek are not understood. This is the only system that has water rights that might impact low summer flows for salmonids within tributary streams in WRIA 35.

### *Evaluation of Future Water Needs in WRIA 35*

As the needs arise, the Planning Unit can help consider possible uses of inchoate water rights. Current water use, except for the City of Asotin, is low and the ability for sharing or transferring excess water rights to help meet needs may be an option. The Planning Unit could serve as a forum for discussions on future instream flow rule making, since almost all of the inchoate rights are outside of priority tributaries identified for anadromous salmonid production.

### *Phase IV Requirements*

This list provides sections of Chapter 90.82 RCW that include specific requirement related to Phase IV Implementation. The list also includes where the requirements are addressed in DIP.

- RCW 90.82.043[1] Within one year of accepting Phase IV funding, "the planning unit must complete a DIP. Submittal of a DIP to Ecology is a condition of receiving grants for the second and all subsequent years of the Phase IV grant."  
*This Document fulfills this requirement*
- RCW 90.82.043[2] "Each implementation plan must contain strategies to provide sufficient water for: (a) Production agriculture; (b) commercial, industrial, and residential use; and, (c) instream flows."  
*Appendix A, B and C fulfill this requirement*
- RCW 90.82.043[2] Each implementation plan must contain timelines to achieve these strategies and interim milestones to measure progress."  
*Pages 6, 9 and Appendix A fulfill this requirement*
- RCW 90.82.043[3] "The implementation plan must clearly define coordination and oversight responsibilities; any needed interlocal agreements, rules, or ordinances; any needed state or local administrative approvals and permits that must be secured; and specific funding mechanisms."  
*Pages 5, 7, 8, and 13 fulfill this requirement*
- RCW 90.82.043[4] In developing the implementation plan, the planning unit must consult with other entities planning in the watershed management area and identify and seek to eliminate any activities or policies that are duplicative or inconsistent."  
*Page 8 fulfills this requirement*

- RCW 90.82.048[1] The timelines and interim milestones in a DIP...must address the planned future use of existing water rights for municipal water supply purposes, as defined in RCW 90.03.015, that are inchoate, including how these rights will be used to meet the projected future needs identified in the watershed plan, and how the use of these rights will be addressed when implementing instream flow strategies identified in the watershed plan.”

*Pages 15 and 16 fulfill this requirement*

- RCW 90.82.048[2] “The watershed planning unit or other authorized lead agency shall insure that holders of water rights for municipal water supply purposes not currently in use are asked to participate in defining the timelines and interim milestones to be included in the DIP.”

*Pages 15 and 16 fulfill this requirement*

- RCW 90.82.048[3] “The department of health shall annually compile a list of water system plans and plan updates to be reviewed by the department during the upcoming year and shall consult with the departments of community, trade and economic development, ecology and fish and wildlife to: (a) identify watersheds where further coordination is needed between water system planning and local watershed planning under this chapter; and (b) develop a work plan for conducting the necessary coordination.”

*This Document will help DOH fulfill this requirement*

## APPENDIX A -- PRIORITIZED STRATEGIES

### WRIA 35 Prioritized Strategies from Middle Snake Watershed Plan

**Appendix A1 WRIA 35--HABITAT PROJECTS WITHIN WRIA 35 IMPLEMENTATION AREAS**

Project Type: Water Quantity Management						
Rank	Project Description	Cost	Schedule	Funding Source/ Partners	Proposed Lead	Comments
H	Continue instream flow gauges through permanent and seasonal gauges within WRIA 35	Low	On-Going	DOE	USGS/DOE/Asotin PUD	Gauges will need to be continually evaluated for their data collection usefulness
H	Conduct detailed hydrogeology study to understand basalt and alluvial ground water resources in Asotin and Alpowa subbasins and identify sustainable levels of ground water withdrawals and opportunities for future needs	High	By 2009	DOE	DOE/Asotin PUD	On-Going and may be used to make future groundwater management decisions including reservations if needed in the Asotin and Alpowa Watershed.
H	<u>Develop a process by which surface water rights maybe exchanged for equivalent ground water rights for irrigation is possible and sustainable</u>	<u>Low</u>	By 2010	DOE, SRFB	DOE/CD's	PU supports recommendations to the legislature to allow for surface to deep aquifer water right while retaining priority dates and/or not relinquishing surface right <u>which is a benefit to both instream and agriculture use while addressing TMDL's</u>
H	Identify wetland restoration, protection and enhancement projects	High	By 2015	DOE	DOE/CD's	Important for cool water and quality.
L	Upgrade irrigation surface & groundwater wells to include meters	Medium	By 2015	DOE	CD's	Required per Chapter 90.03 RCW
L	Sole source aquifer study	Medium	Completed	DOE	USGS/ Ecology/Asotin PUD	Lewiston Basin Aquifer - petitioned to EPA for designation as a sole source Aquifer in Dec 87. Official designation - Sept. 88. Publicizes the value of the ground water resources and provides limited federal water quality protection.
L	Characterize ground water conditions to determine if an additional 81 afy withdrawal from ground water is sustainable	High	By 2010	City of Asotin	City of Asotin	PU supports the City of Asotin during their evaluation process
L	Characterize ground water conditions; determine if additional ground water is needed for the City of Pomeroy	High	By 2015	City of Pomeroy	City of Pomeroy	Current water right was evaluated to be sufficient for 20 year growth projection
M	Improve irrigation efficiencies, including conveyance and application methods; as well as updated screens and meters.	Medium	By 2010	DOE, WCC, BPA, SRFB	CD's	Irrigation efficiencies high priority for water conservation and small farm applications that don't meet other program requirements.
M	Implement pilot project to encourage beaver activity for multi-purpose storage through dams, wetlands and water retention	Low	By 2010	WDFW	WDFW/CD's	Public perception of project may make it undesirable. Start in headwaters so seeding occurs downstream.
M	Explore opportunities for water right leases and/or acquisitions through the WDOE Trust Water Program and/or water banking.	Low	By 2010	DOE, SRFB	WDFW/CD's	Statutory infrastructure not in place currently to operate a water bank, however Trust Water Program may be a viable tool in some sub-basins. Concerns remain that irrigated ag needs to be preserved.
M	Seek additional water rights to develop additional water supply of 81 afy from ground water to provide future needs of City of Asotin, if study determines withdrawal is sustainable	Low	By 2015	City of Asotin	City of Asotin	PU supports their need for identifying water availability for future growth

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**Appendix A2 WRIA 35 HABITAT PROJECTS WITHIN WRIA 35 IMPLEMENTATION AREAS**

<b>Project Type: WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT</b>						
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Funding Source/ Partners</b>	<b>Proposed Lead</b>	<b>Comments</b>
H	Implement the following strategies to reduce fecal coliform levels: 1. identify failing septic systems; repair and/or upgrade or connect to sewer if available; 2. Restore riparian buffers; 3. Manage grazing in riparian areas	Med/High	By 2010	Ecology, DOH, County Health, SRFB, BPA, WCC	CD's/Asotin, Garfield & Columbia Co	On-Going apply accepted BMP's. PU funding not the primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components. Fecals are identified on some TMDL's in WRIA
H	Implement the following strategies to reduce TSS levels and erosion control for pasture, crop and forested land: 1. direct seed; 2. CRP; 3. grassed waterways; 4. sediment basins; 5. weed control; 6. grazing management; 7. cross fencing; 8. alternative water sources; 9. manure management	Med/High	By 2010	WCC, DOE, BPA, SRFB	CD's/DOE/WDFW/USFS	On-Going apply accepted BMP's. PU funding not the primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
H	Work with individual landowners to review pesticide and fertilizer use; and to implement the following best management practices to limit water quality impacts: 1. restore riparian areas; 2 urban/rural education program; 3 conservation tillage	Med	On-Going	WCC, DOE, BPA, SRFB	NRCS/CD's/WSU Coop. Ext.	On-Going apply accepted BMP's. PU funding not the primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
H	Identify and designate aquifer recharge areas and protect known aquifer recharge areas through critical area ordinances	Low	On-Going	DOE	Asotin, Garfield & Columbia Co	Phase II HydroGeo might identify areas to coordinate with Counties to ensure planning efforts are consistent.
<del>M</del>	<del>Prioritize post-fire (School Fire) projects on public and private lands within fire boundaries</del>	<del>Med/High</del>	<del>On-Going</del>	<del>USFS, CREP, WDFW, BPA, SRFB</del>	<del>WDFW/ CCD/ USFS</del>	<del>High priority projects funded on State/Public property completed. PU funding not the primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy component.</del>
H	Design and construct sewer collection and treatment facility for Anatone	High	2010	DOE	Asotin County	Ecology STEP Program may be possible, funding from PU is not primary maybe supplemented.
M	Adopt Eastern Washington Stormwater manual and implement the following strategies to improve stormwater management and treatment and increase groundwater infiltration: 1. sediment basins; 2. infiltration trenches; 3. swales/wetlands; 4. rural /urban drainage ditch upgrades and treatment; 5. Shaping/grading; 6. reclamation/reuse; and 7. mowing vs. spraying	High	Plan by 2009 Implement by 2012	DOE	Asotin, Garfield & Columbia Co	On-Going apply accepted BMP's. PU funding not the primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components. Stormwater program deals mainly with urban/rural growth areas and how to reduce water quality impacts from urban activities.
M	Conduct current condition and source evaluation of water quality impacts including: 1. Determining if inputs from Pataha impact water quality in the Tucannon River; 2. Identifying sources of fecal coliform; 3. Determining natural temperature ranges for the Tucannon; 4. Collecting data in accordance with Ecology standards for use in developing state-required TMDLs	Low	By 2010	Ecology, DOH, County Health	CCD/PCD/DOE	TMDL Plan development in progress in Tucannon/Pataha and implementation will be dependent on funding and if project strategies are identified in Watershed Plan. The Source Identification strategy is an important component of future implementation.

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Appendix A3 WRIA 35 HABITAT PROJECTS WITHIN WRIA 35 IMPLEMENTATION AREAS

Project Type: AQUATIC HABITAT ENHANCEMENT						
Rank	Project Description	Cost	Schedule	Funding Source/ Partners	Proposed Lead	Comments
H	Implement passive restoration projects, including Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program, riparian buffers, pilot conservation easements, and public education on use of easements.	Med/ High	On-Going	CREP, WCC, BPA, SRFB	WDFW/ CD's/Nez Perce Tribe/ CTUIR	On-Going apply accepted BMP's. PU funding not the primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
H	Implement aquatic habitat protection plans for streams with ESA listed species for instream restoration/protection: 1. Enhancement Restoration and Protection Projects; 2. Riparian Buffers; 3. Large Woody Debris Replenishment and Replacement /Enhancement; 4. Enhancement of habitat for Fall Chinook/ steelhead; 5. control noxious weeds; 6. plant native vegetation	High	By 2010	BPA, WCC, SRFB	WDFW/ ACCD/ CCD/ Nez Perce Tribe/CTUIR/ County Weed Boards	Instream projects are a priority in large MSA's within the Asotin and Tucannon watersheds. . PU funding not the primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
<del>M</del>	<del>Remove/Modify fish passage obstructions identified in WDFW priority lists for WRIA 35 streams and Snake River Salmon Recovery Board Barrier Inventory Assessment project contracted by Walla Walla Community College and funded by SRFB.</del>	<del>Med/ High</del>	<del>On-Going</del>	<del>SRFB, DOT</del>	<del>WDFW/ CD's/Nez Perce Tribe/ CTUR/ USFS</del>	<del>Walla Walla Community College has a transportation infrastructure barrier assessment project funded by SRFB, these projects could be evaluated under this program. . PU funding not the primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.</del>
M	Conduct inventory and analysis of fish passage barriers	Medium	By 2010	SRFB	WDFW/ CD's/Nez Perce Tribe/ USFS/ CTUIR	Walla Walla Community College has a transportation infrastructure barrier assessment. Focus on additional barriers located within WRIA 35. PU funding not primary source, maybe supplemental source for this strategy.
M	Work with private and public landowners to maintain, protect and enhance pristine and other areas of the headwaters by encouraging application of riparian and instream BMPs	Medium	On-Going	USFS, BPA	WDFW/CD's/ Nez Perce Tribe/CTUIR	Most of Tucannon and Asotin watershed headwaters are under USFS/WDFW and are currently roadless or roads are being addressed. PU funding not primary source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.

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Appendix A4 WRIA 35—BASIN WIDE PROJECTS PROPOSED IN WRIA 35 IMPLEMENTATION AREA

<b>Project Type: Water Quantity Management</b>						
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Funding Source/ Partners</b>	<b>Proposed Lead</b>	<b>Comments</b>
H	Provide long-term reliable and predictable water supplies for municipal, residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, and instream water uses.	High	On-Going	DOE	DOE/ Counties/ Cities	Goal of Plan and DIP. PU Funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
H	Characterize surface and ground water availability and recharge/discharge balance and connectivity within the sub-basins and surrounding region to ensure adequate long term ground water resources to meet existing needs, consistent with adopted city and county land use plans.	High	On-Going	DOE	DOE/ Asotin PUD	On-Going for future WRIA decisions. PU funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
H	Improve certainty, timeliness and efficiency in water rights decisions.	Low	On-Going	DOE	DOE	On-Going future management decisions. PU supports reliable water for all resources within WRIA and making timely decisions on potential availability.
M	Encourage stormwater and/or wastewater reclamation and reuse to satisfy other water resource needs.	High	On-Going	DOE	Counties/ CD's	PU funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
M	Identify and develop opportunities to enhance available water supply, emphasizing aquifer storage and recovery, source substitution, reclamation and reuse, and stormwater retention.	High	On-Going	DOE	DOE/CD's	PU funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
<del>H</del>	<del>Promote conservation and efficiency of water use, including but not limited to municipal, residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, and instream water uses.</del>	<del>Medium</del>	<del>On-Going</del>	<del>DOE</del>	<del>DOE/CD's</del>	<del>Conservation and Efficiency are high a priority, PU recognizes other funding sources that are currently focused on this strategy. PU Funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.</del>

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*COST Estimates – (Low = < \$100,000; Medium = \$100,000 - \$500,000; High => \$500,000)*



Appendix A5 WRIA 35—BASIN WIDE HABITAT PROJECTS PROPOSED IN WRIA 35 IMPLEMENTATION AREA

Project Type: WATER QUALITY MANAGEMENT						
Rank	Project Description	Cost	Schedule	Funding Source/ Partners	Proposed Lead	Comments
H	Water transfer not allowed outside the PU consistent with the Columbia River Water Management Program.	Low	On-Going	DOE	DOE/ Planning Unit	PU is interested in supporting irrigated ag and ensuring that it is maintained throughout the WRIA
H	Protect and improve surface and ground water quality needed for public drinking water supplies and other uses (including but not limited to municipal, residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, and instream water uses).	High	On-Going	State Legislature, DOE, WDFW	DOE/ WDFW/ CD's/ PUD	PU Funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.
<del>M</del>	<del>Manage stormwater in both urban and rural areas to improve water quality, reduce flooding and enhance aquifer recharge where practicable.</del>	<del>High</del>	<del>On-Going</del>	<del>State Legislature, DOE, WCC</del>	<del>Counties/ CD's</del>	<del>PU Funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.</del>
H	Stockwater – recommend legislative changes that would allow for riparian stockwater rights to be transferred to groundwater rights and retain priority date when the purpose is to protect water quality.	Medium	On-Going	DOE, WCC, BPA, SRFB	CD's/DOE/ PU	PU is interested in ensuring that stockwater wells are not competing with domestic exempt wells for domestic use
H	Relinquishment Statue (changes) – make a recommendation for legislative changes that allow for conservation without penalty of relinquishment.	Low	On-Going	DOE	DOE/ Planning Unit	PU is interested in seeing senior and junior water rights supported for domestic and irrigation purposes
M	Review state surface water quality standards and establish natural (system potential) temperature levels for streams and rivers that reflect conditions within the watershed.	Medium	On-Going	State Legislature, DOE	DOE/ WDFW/ CD's	Current TMDL processes may identify exceedence variances to state standards. PU May elect to assess natural system potential temperature limitations and pursue alternatives.

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*COST Estimates – (Low = < \$100,000; Medium = \$100,000 - \$500,000; High => \$500,000)*

**Appendix A6 WRIA 35—BASIN WIDE HABITAT PROJECTS PROPOSED IN WRIA 35 IMPLEMENTATION AREA**

<b>Project Type: GENERAL</b>						
<b>Rank</b>	<b>Project Description</b>	<b>Cost</b>	<b>Schedule</b>	<b>Funding Source/ Partners</b>	<b>Proposed Lead</b>	<b>Comments</b>
H	Protect existing water rights, private property rights and tribal treaty rights.	Medium	On-Going	DOE, BPA	CD's/ WDFW/ USFS/ Nez Perce/ CTUIR	Legal Mandate and Goal of Plan and DIP
H	Emphasize voluntary and incentive-based management solutions, including Continuous Conservation Resource Program (CCRP), Conservation Security Program (CSP), CREP, WRP, and WWRP.	High	On-Going	USDA	NRCS/FSA/ CD's/ WDFW/ Nez Perce Tribe/ CTUIR	Goal of Plan and DIP
H	Maintain and enhance regional economy and provide future economic opportunities associated with the watershed hydrology, including but not limited to municipal, residential, commercial, industrial, agricultural, recreational, tourism, and instream water uses.	High	On-Going	DOE, WCC, BPA, SRFB	CD's/ WDFW/ USFS/ Nez Perce/ CTUIR	Goal of Plan and DIP
H	Establish and review a detailed funding plan for implementation, including: projects; programs; long-term monitoring; and evaluation of watershed plan implementation.	Low	On-Going	DOE	Asotin PUD/ Planning Unit	On-Going
H	Encourage fairness in distributing costs and burdens of water resource management actions.	Low	On-Going	DOE	Asotin PUD/ Planning Unit	Goal of Plan and DIP
H	Improve consistency in federal, state, and local water resources regulatory and management approaches, and obtain local, state, and federal and tribal buy-in and cooperation for recommended management strategies.	Medium	On-Going	DOE, WDFW, BPA, SRFB	CD's/ WDFW/ USFS/ Nez Perce/ CTUIR	Goal of Plan and DIP

*COST Estimates – (Low = < \$100,000; Medium = \$100,000 - \$500,000; High => \$500,000)*

Appendix A7 WRIA 35—BASIN WIDE PROJECTS PROPOSED IN WRIA 35 IMPLEMENTATION AREA

Project Type: GENERAL (Continued)							
Rank	Project Description	Cost	Schedule	Funding Source/ Partners	Proposed Lead	Comments	
H	Restore and enhance natural floodplain, riparian and wetland capacities, where feasible, to increase aquifer recharge, improve water quality, provide aquatic and riparian habitat, and reduce the duration and severity of flood events.	High	On-Going	DOE, WCC, BPA, SRFB	CD's/ Counties/ Nez Perce/ CTUIR	PU funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.	
<del>H</del>	<del>Review and update land use plans and regulations as necessary to be compatible with and support water resource management goals.</del>	<del>Medium</del>	<del>On-Going</del>	<del>State Legislature</del>	<del>Counties/ DOE/Cities</del>	<del>Coordination and support between county planning processes and PU to enhance consistencies and reduce potential duplication of effort.</del>	<del>Deleted: M</del>
<del>H</del>	<del>Support implementation of urban and rural land management BMPs.</del>	<del>High</del>	<del>On-Going</del>	<del>State Legislature, DOE, WCC, BPA, SRFB</del>	<del>Counties/ CD's</del>	<del>Goal of Plan and DIP</del>	<del>Deleted: M</del>
M	Establish and maintain ongoing water resource management education and outreach, addressing topics including water use, conservation, reclamation, reuse, stormwater management and best management practices.	Low	On-Going	DOE	Asotin PUD/ CD's/ Counties	Goal of Plan and DIP	
<del>H</del>	<del>Develop and implement noxious weed control programs, on private and public lands.</del>	<del>Medium</del>	<del>On-Going</del>	<del>State Legislature</del>	<del>County Weed Boards</del>	<del>PU funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.</del>	<del>Deleted: M</del>
M	Improve scientific basis, including use of bio-assessment performance measures (e.g., indicator species) for understanding baseline conditions and measuring watershed enhancement.	Medium	On-Going	BPA, SRFB	WDFW	PU Support of county weed boards to enhance consistencies and reduce duplication of effort. PU funding not primary funding source, maybe supplemental source where addressing specific strategy components.	

*COST Estimates – (Low = < \$100,000; Medium = \$100,000 - \$500,000; High => \$500,000)*

APPENDIX B -- OBLIGATIONS AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS