

Yakima Basin Integrated Plan

DC Leadership Group - 2016



Purpose of the DC Leadership Group

Provide Assistance:

- Addressing national policy issues
- Clarifying and strategizing authority issues
- Identifying potential funding opportunities





US Army Corps of Engineers

DC Leadership Group Agencies:



- Bureau of Reclamation
- U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service
- Bureau of Indian Affairs
- Bureau of Land Management
- U.S. Forest Service
- Natural Resources Conservation Service
- NOAA Fisheries
- U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
- Bonneville Power Administration



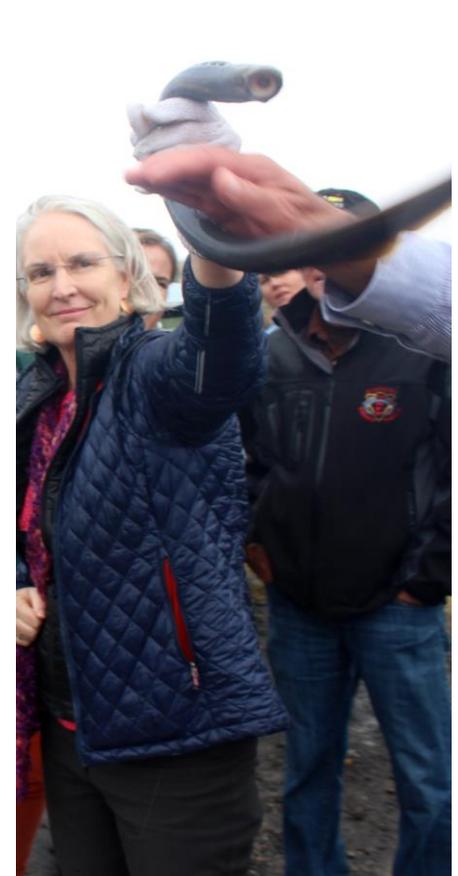
2016 Site Visits:

Oct 12

- KR D Tributary Supplementation site
- Cle Elum Hatchery
Supplementation/Research Facility – Tour & Salmon Bake
- Cle Elum Fish Passage – Ribbon Cutting Ceremony
- Cooper Bridge – Sockeye Salmon spawning

Oct 13

- Yakama Nation Water Conservation efforts on the Wapato Irrigation Project
- Toppenish Fan Restoration
- Lamprey Research & Reintroduction





Ceremonial Opening of Cle Elum Fish Passage Access Road and Spillway Bridge



Pictured: Tom Tebb, Estevan López, Derek Sandison, Michael Connor, Phil Rigdon, Wendy Christensen, Lorri Lee, Tom Iseman



DC Leadership Group Workshop

- DC Leadership Group Charter
- Western Watershed Enhancement Partnership Proclamation
 - Discussion
 - Signing
- MOU between DOI's Natural Resource Investment Center, Roza, and KRD
 - Discussion
 - Signing
- Roundtable
 - Questions, comments and observations from the site visits
 - Commitment to Water Conservation and Efficiencies
- Funding
- Transition to new Administration



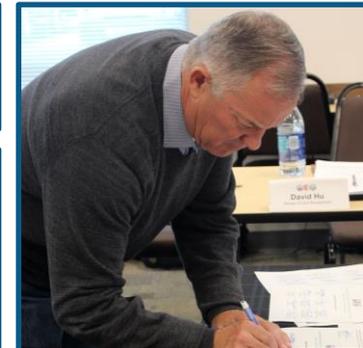


DC Leadership Group Feedback

- Clarify the communication structure between Workgroup and DC Leadership Group
- Identify existing programs that will bring resources to the Integrated Plan from more diverse funders
- Strengthen language supporting Native American treaty rights and Federal obligations
- +
 - Develop a more integrated budget strategy
 - Tell the integrated funding story more clearly and explicitly
 - Show projected funding needs in out-years

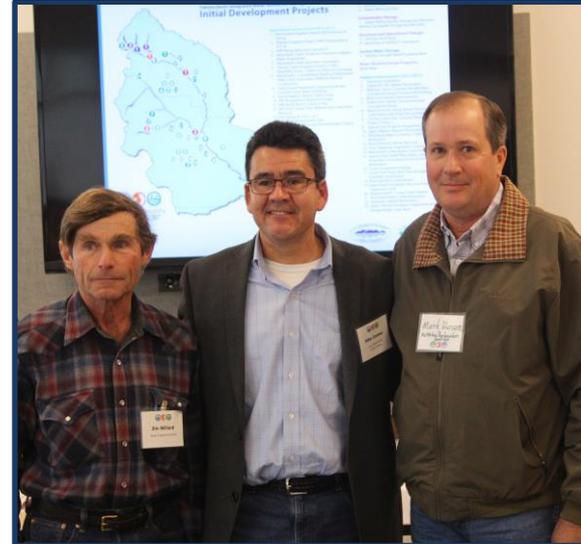


Signing the Western Watershed Enhancement Partnership Proclamation



Pictured: Paul Jewell, Mike Leita, Tom Tebb, Lisa Pelly, Phil Rigdon, Leslie Jones, Michael Connor, Wendy McDermott, Mike Livingston, Urban Eberhart, Ron VanGundy

+ Signing the Innovative Financing MOU

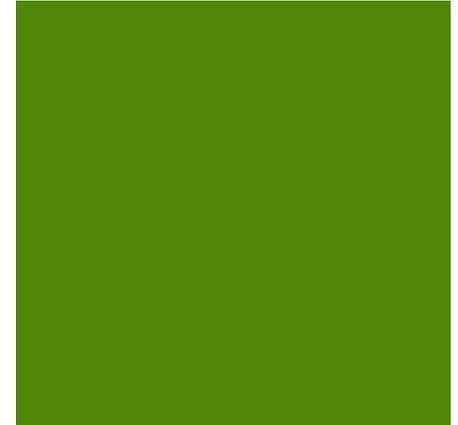


Pictured: Jim Willard, Mark Hansen, Michael Connor, Ron VanGundy, Roylene Rides-at-the-Door



Leadership Group Recommendations:

- Continue to strengthen support for state and local government involvement
- Work to better explain recreational benefits of Integrated Plan
- Articulate the connections between tribal, federal, state and local governments funding this work
 - Increase this in our messaging, documents and handouts
 - Tell the private funding story as well
- Share timelines that identify out-year funding needs
- Tell the human side of the fishery and water supply story
 - Values, livelihoods, hopes for the future
- Emphasize the existing conservation work, to better illustrate that we cannot 'conserve our way out' alone



+ Water Conservation and Efficiencies



USDA has committed \$40 million to water conservation and efficiency projects.

Partnering with NRCS, EQUIP and Reclamation's WaterSMART to maximize investment benefits.



YRBWEP conservation projects currently save 69,000 acre feet annually, with 128,000 identified under potential future projects. The YBIP has identified 170,000 additional acre feet.

Total savings: 297,000 acre feet per year



Roza Irrigation District has spent ~\$36 million to conserve 39,500 acre feet since 1983. Ron VanGundy described the canal lining, sealing, automation and on-farm efficiency projects, prompted by the Clean Water Act .

Yakima Basin irrigators looking to the future



NRCS Regional Conservation Partnership provides technical assistance and funding to operational improvements like those enacted by the Yakama Nation.

Washington leads the nation in RCPP grant funding





New Commitments

- NRCS reaffirmed commitment to State agencies
 - General commitment of support from national level into the new administration
 - Counties committed to fulfilling responsibility to demonstrate whether water is legally and physically available for development
- +
- Partnerships between DOI, NRCS, Reclamation to grow and refine funding strategies for on-farm and system improvements
 - The Integrated Plan will be highlighted for White House leaders in USDA's December National Drought Resiliency Plan report



Path Forward

The DC Leadership Group will:

- Implement changes to charter
- Support a transition plan to new administration
- Help tell the integrated funding story
- Help emphasize watershed-scale approach among agencies
- Follow-through on federal recommendations and responsibilities





+ Questions?

