



Icicle Creek Water Resource Management Strategy

Columbia River Policy Advisory Group

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Icicle Creek is a tributary in WRIA 45



Background

- **Co-Conveners:** Ecology OCR and Chelan County DNR
- **Process:** Assembled Icicle Workgroup (IWG) Stakeholders
- **Timeline:**
 - 2012 to 2015: Guiding Principles adopted, studies completed, and alternative projects considered
 - 2015 to 2016: Icicle Strategy (base package) endorsed by IWG and SEPA scoping
 - 2016 to 2018: Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement and feasibility studies ongoing
 - 2018 to 2022: Individual project environmental review checks, permitting, design and implementation
- **Goals:** Meet instream and out-of-stream objectives in Icicle Creek Basin, provide an alternate pathway for conflict resolution other than litigation

IWG Members

- Ecology Office of Columbia River
- Chelan Co Board of Commissioners
- Conf Tribes of the Yakama Indian Nation
- WA State Dept of Fish & Wildlife
- Conf Tribes of the Colville Reservation
- Icicle & Peshastin Irrigation District
- USFWS – Leavenworth Fish Hatchery
- City of Leavenworth
- NOAA Fisheries
- Cascade Orchard Irrigation Co
- Icicle Creek Watershed Council
- WA Water Trust
- US Forest Service
- Trout Unlimited
- Agricultural Representatives
- City of Cashmere
- US Bureau of Reclamation

Guiding Principles

■ Improve Streamflow

- Dry Year Goal = 60 cfs (current conditions <20 cfs)
- Average Year Goal = 100 to 250 cfs (current is 60 cfs)

■ Improve Sustainability of the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery

- Meet fish production requirements
- Fulfill federally protected Tribal fishing rights
- Protect and conserve water rights
- Maximize fish health
- Minimize fish barriers

Guiding Principles

- **Protect Tribal Treaty and Federally-Protected fishing/ harvest rights**
- **Meet Domestic Water Demand**
 - Increase year-round supply by 3-6 cfs (peak) (thru 2050)
- **Improve Agricultural Reliability**
 - Improve management of existing lake storage
 - Current interruptible water use (2-4 cfs) made firm

Guiding Principles

- **Improve and Protect Icicle Creek Habitat**
 - Stream habitat enhancement and protection
 - Improve fish passage
 - Fish screen upgrades
- **Protect Non-Treaty Harvest**
- **Comply with State and Federal Laws and Wilderness Acts**

What Does Flow In Icicle Creek Look Like?



Low flow in late 2001 was about 20 cfs (and 16.4 cfs in 2015)

SEPA - Process

- **Pre-Scoping**
 - Co-Lead Agency Memorandum of Agreement
 - Identified cooperating agencies
 - NEPA integration strategy
 - Stakeholder meetings
 - Identified potential permits
- **Completed Expanded Checklist**
 - Assembled existing environmental documents, outreach materials,
 - Issued Determination of Significance
- **Public Notice / Open House / Comment Period**
- **Evaluated Comments**
- **Created 5 Alternatives**
- **Began Draft EIS Process**

SEPA Process Overview

Icicle Strategy SEPA

- **Proposal: Guiding Principles and “Base Package”**
- **Draft EIS: What is Included?**
 - Existing environment
 - Alternatives and no-action
 - Impacts
 - Mitigation measures
 - Permitting framework
- **Will Project Environmental Review Occur?**
 - Yes, if NEPA required or new substantial environmental impacts are found.
 - No, just the Programmatic EIS if no new substantial impacts.
 - Project-by-Project determination

Overview of Potential Projects

- **Conservation**
- **Groundwater Augmentation**
- **Reuse**
- **Pump Exchanges**
- **Modification of Existing Storage**
- **New Storage**
- **Water Markets**
- **Fish Passage and Screening**
- **Habitat Improvement**
- **Tribal Fishery Enhancement**

What PEIS Alternatives Are Evaluated?

- No Action
- Icicle Workgroup Base Package includes a balance of conservation and storage modification and restoration projects, plus habitat/screening/passage improvements.
- Alternatives that combine projects to focus on different local values:
 - A conservation focused alternative with no Wilderness impacts
 - Storage focused alternatives
 - Pump exchange focused alternatives

Projects	Proposed Alternatives					
	No Action Alternative	Alternative 1	Alternative 2	Alternative 3	Alternative 4	Alternative 5
Conservation						
IPID Irrigation Efficiencies	○	●	●	●	●	
COIC Irrigation Efficiencies (Piping)	●	●	●	●	●	●
Domestic Conservation Efficiencies	○	●	●	●	●	●
LNFH Conservation and Water Quality Improvements	●	●	●	●	●	●
Pump Exchange						
IPID Dryden Pump Exchange	○	○	●	●		
Full IPID Pump Station						●
COIC Irrigation Efficiencies (Pump Exchange)	●	●	●	●	●	●
Modification/Restoration of Existing Storage						
Alpine Lakes Reservoir Optimization, Modernization and Automation	○	●			●	●
Eightmile Lake Storage Restoration	○	●	●	○	●	●
New Storage						
Eightmile Lake Storage Enhancement					●	
Upper Klonauqua Lake Storage Enhancement					●	
Upper and Lower Snow Lakes Storage Enhancement					●	
Habitat/Fisheries Improvements						
Tribal Fishery Protection	○	●	●	●	●	●
Habitat Protection and Enhancement	○	●	●	●	●	●
Fish Passage	●	●	●	●	●	●
Fish Screening	●	●	●	●	●	●
Legislative/Administrative Tools						
Water Markets		●	●	●	●	●
Instream Flow Rule Amendment	○	●	●	●	●	●
OCPI legislative fix from instream flow impacts				●		

○ Represents projects that might proceed if funding becomes available. However, under the No-action Alternative, project beneficiaries may be different and project timelines are unknown.

● Represents projects that are likely to occur as described, but could be replaced by another project that fulfills the same guiding principles if a design, funding, or permitting fatal flaw is identified.

What PEIS Alternatives Are Not Evaluated?

- Removing Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery
- Decommissioning existing dams
- Selling District water rights

SEPA Process Overview

Timeline

- **May 31, 2018 launch of Draft PEIS**
- 60-day comment period, public hearing June 27
- July-August 2018: Meeting with Icicle Workgroup to get advice on Preferred Alternative
- October-November 2018: Goal to issue Final PEIS
- Winter 2018: Begin implementation of Preferred Alternative
 - Supplemental environmental review (and NEPA if necessary), permitting, design, construction



Questions?

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