

# Proposed Projects for Wenatchee 2050

## CURRENT WORK / ISSUES

### **Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (EIS)**

A Programmatic EIS for the Wenatchee 2050 effort will be developed that will include identification of existing foundational environmental documents; preparation of a gap analysis; identification of project activities for the Wenatchee 2050 effort (e.g., modification of storage, conservation, and pump exchanges); identification of early action items where momentum exists in their study, permitting, or funding; and determination of stakeholder outreach support for the 12 sub-basins.

### **Icicle and Peshastin Irrigation Districts Pump Exchange**

A feasibility-level study will be done to provide a detailed evaluation of pumping water from the Wenatchee River near Dryden into the Peshastin Irrigation District (PID) Canal, with an option to further boost water to the Icicle Irrigation District (IID) Canal. In addition, an appraisal-level study will be done to evaluate pumping water from the Wenatchee River in Leavenworth to the IID Canal.

### **Alpine Lakes Optimization and Automation Appraisal Study**

The recharge for each lake will be evaluated as a function of historical and climate-change-induced water years and a comparison of current annual alternating-lake draining versus annual multi-lake draining on water supply. Also, the potential for automation of these lakes to implement coordinated optimization of lake releases for both instream (e.g., historical Icicle Channel) and out-of-stream (e.g., City of Leavenworth) water supply benefits will be evaluated.

### **Eight-Mile Lake Storage Restoration and Expansion Appraisal Study and Fatal Flaw Analysis**

An appraisal study will be done to evaluate the construction, operation and maintenance, and permitting activities necessary to restore the lake from its current maximum pool level of 1,200 acre-feet to the permitted level (2,000 acre-feet) and adjudicated water right levels (2,500 acre-feet). Also, the potential for expanding the lake beyond its historical capacity to a targeted capacity of 5,000 acre-feet will be evaluated. This evaluation will include a “fatal flaw” analysis of impacts on the Alpine Wilderness Area, permitting constraints, budgetary constructions costs, and benefits to instream

### **Icicle and Peshastin Irrigation Districts Comprehensive Water Conservation Plans**

The 20-year-old Comprehensive Water Conservation Plan for each irrigation district will be updated, incorporating infrastructure updates, operation and maintenance protocols, water rights evaluations, identification of efficient/water savings measures, capital improvement plans, and financing plans for future improvements.

### **Cascade Orchards Canal Company Comprehensive Plan**

An Irrigation Company Comprehensive Plan for Cascade Orchards will be developed, including an infrastructure evaluation, operation and maintenance protocols, a water rights evaluation, identification of efficient/water savings measures, a capital improvement plan, and a financing plan for future improvements.



# Icicle Comprehensive Water Resources Strategy

## CURRENT WORK / ISSUES

### **Icicle Creek Instream Flow Study Plan for the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery**

In 2010, the Washington Department of Ecology granted a Water Quality Certification to the US Fish and Wildlife Service for Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery. This certification identifies a requirement to conduct an in-stream flow study to determine effect of hatchery operation on fish habitat. This report is presently underway with anticipated completion in January 2013.

### **Value Analysis – Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery Surface Water Supply**

The US Bureau of Reclamation and US Fish and Wildlife Service are conducting a value analysis on the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery Surface Water Supply. On June 25, 2012 the value Study Team met for a 5-day study of the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery Surface Water Supply project. The team is developing several proposals associated with improving supply to the Hatchery over the next 10-years including improvements to trashracks, intakes structures, replacement and relining of pipeline, intake monitoring, improvements to screening and development of a new well for tempering water at the inlet.

### **Litigation; Leavenworth v Ecology**

The City of Leavenworth's (City) surface water certificate authorizes an instantaneous quantity ( $Q_i$ ) of diversion of 1.5-cfs from Icicle Creek. According to the City, the certificate does not list a specific time limit or maximum annual quantity ( $Q_a$ ) and contends that the  $Q_a$  should be 1,085 acre-feet per year which is based upon year-round, continuous diversion. The Department of Ecology states the City has previously agreed to limit annual  $Q_a$  to 275 acre-feet per year based upon a prior settlement before the PCHB. The City filed a declaratory judgment action in Chelan County Superior Court seeking a determination of maximum annual  $Q_a$ . In 2012, the court ruled in favor of Ecology, which the City appealed to the Court of Appeals.

### **Litigation; Wild Fish Conservancy; Harriet S. Bullitt v. US Department of Interior; US Fish and Wildlife Service; Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery; US Bureau of Reclamation.**

The United States Fish and Wildlife Service operates a surface water diversion from Icicle Creek to supply water to the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery for various uses. In 2009, the Wild Fish Conservancy and a local resident, Harriet Bullitt, filed a complaint for declaratory and injunctive relief in the Eastern District of Washington, United States District Court against United States Fish and Wildlife Service (FWS), Bureau of Reclamation (Reclamation), Department of Interior (Interior) and the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery (LNFH) on the basis that they have allegedly violated the State of Washington's Water Code. The US District Court ruled in favor of the defendant. The plaintiff is currently appealing to the Ninth Circuit Court.

