

**YBSA Monthly Report
October, 2009**

Work Group Process: The Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project (YRBWEP) Work Group has listed projects to be considered. (see attachments package phase 1, phase 2, & phase 3) The list includes a timeline that exceeds 25 years for completion. The list includes enlarging Bumping Lake, a 3 foot raise in elevation of Lake Cle Elum, extracting water from the existing reservoirs below the available storage, and a Keechelus-to-Kachees pipeline. Most of the projects have been evaluated in past studies and found to be **insufficient** due to environmental concerns; excess costs compared to benefits, and have failed in the past. The Combined Benefits of Phase 1 Projects based upon 2005 hydrologic conditions is estimated to take at least 10 years for completion. (see attachment phase 1) The numbers represented in the Combined Benefits of Phase 1 Projects are an estimate if able to be completed. The estimated cost of the Water Supply Benefit Package was in excess of \$4 billion and several billion more over 30+ years. (see attachment YHA Bumping Lake)

Columbia Pump/Storage Program: The Columbia Pump Storage Program as defined in the Yakima River Basin Water Storage Feasibility Study would provide water even during consecutive drought years. Construction costs of pump/storage from the Columbia River would be \$4.5 billion as illustrated in Table 2.15 project costs.

Comparison of Phase I to Pump/Storage:

Water Supply Benefit
100 Year Term
0-10 Year Completion

Comparison of Proposed Phase 1 Projects and a Columbia Pump/Storage Program
Average Water Available Annually 2005 Conditions

	TWSA Estimated	TWSA With Storage	During Drought 2005	Carry Over Volume	April-Sept. at Parker	April-Sept. at Yakima Mouth	July-Oct. at Umtanum	Estimated Cost
No Action	1.76 Million Acre/Feet	N/A	0	12 Thousand Acre/Feet	N/A	N/A	N/A	
Columbia Pump Storage	Up To 800 Thousand Acre/Feet ¹	2.56 Million Acre/Feet	85% Increase	50 Thousand Acre/Feet	500 Thousand Acre/Feet Increase ²	500 Thousand Acre/Feet Increase ²	More Normal Flow ²	\$4.56 Billion Storage Study
Combine Benefit Phase I	300 Thousand Acre/Feet When Completed	2.07 Million Acre/Feet	25% Increase	15 Thousand Acre/Feet	193 Thousand Acre/Feet Increase	131 Thousand Acre/Feet Increase	200 Thousand Acre/Feet Decrease	\$4+ Billion Work Group

Pump/Storage would provide 1.3 Million Acre/Feet Available Annually

¹ Roza and Sunnyside Irrigation Districts would use all or some of the available water to fulfill their contracts for water.

² Freed water would be managed for instream flow and fish.

Projects Funded with Columbia Pump/Storage

Columbia pump/storage enables us to have a more normal flow in the Yakima River.

- Provides an opportunity for management of freed water by fish biologists (SOAC)
- Makes water available for fish passage at existing reservoirs
- Reduces flip-flop
- Provides funding for fish supplementation facilities and other fish enhancement programs by the Yakama Nation
- Provides water to enlarge habitat area with additional water in all 5 reaches of the Yakima River
- Make Bumping Lake a fish facility with a large fish ladder to accommodate natural flow
- Provides more than 70% water for proratable irrigation districts in consecutive drought years
- Provides protection for fish, agriculture, and municipal growth due to climate change
- Allows for a more normal flow in the Yakima and Cle Elum Rivers
- Provides additional water for groundwater infiltration

Conservation Programs: Conservation programs will continue as authorized and funded under the existing Title XII Enhancement Program.

YBSA Goals: A large amount of stored water is necessary to ensure a healthy economy. Water is the lifeblood of the Yakima Basin. Ensure that climate change is considered when seeking a solution for more water. Find the lowest cost alternative.

The **economy** and **fisheries** in the Yakima Basin can not wait another 30+ years to find a solution!

See www.ybsa.org for more information.