

Title:

Subbasin, Salmon Recovery, and Other Planning Efforts in the Yakima Basin

Author:

Richard Visser - Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
(509) 457-9308 visserhv@dfw.wa.gov

Summary of Presentation:

Two planning efforts are currently being organized in the Yakima Basin. These efforts are BPA's Subbasin Planning and the State's Salmon Recovery Planning (SRP). The Yakima Subbasin Fish and Wildlife Planning Board has developed an organizational structure and has requested funding to conduct both planning efforts. In general many tasks for Subbasin Planning and the SRP overlap and both will utilize existing information and tools (e.g. LFA, EDT, etc.). Subbasin planning consists of three components: biological assessment, inventory of existing recovery programs and activities, and a management plan. The primary difference between the plans will be evident in products developed within the management components of each plan. The Subbasin Plan will describe "types" of management actions with priority that should be implemented to achieve stated goals. The SRP will go beyond the Subbasin Plan by prescribing management actions that will include: who will implement prescribed actions, the cost of these actions, funding sources for implementation, and incorporate enforcement and public education needs. Subbasin and Salmon Recovery Planning will provide needed guidance for salmon recovery in the basin but will not eliminate planning needs for action and site specific programs such as the Yakima Klickitat Fisheries Project (hatchery supplementation, research, and habitat protection), Yakima Tributary Access and Habitat Program (tributary passage and screening), and the Yakima Habitat Improvement Program (acquisition within the Urban Growth Area of the City of Yakima). On the contrary, Subbasin and SRP planning will attempt to assimilate specific program planning efforts (resistance is futile).