

A photograph of a river with a dam and rapids, surrounded by dense green trees. The water is turbulent and white with foam as it flows over the dam and rocks. The background is filled with lush green foliage.

# Restoration Projects in Kittitas County

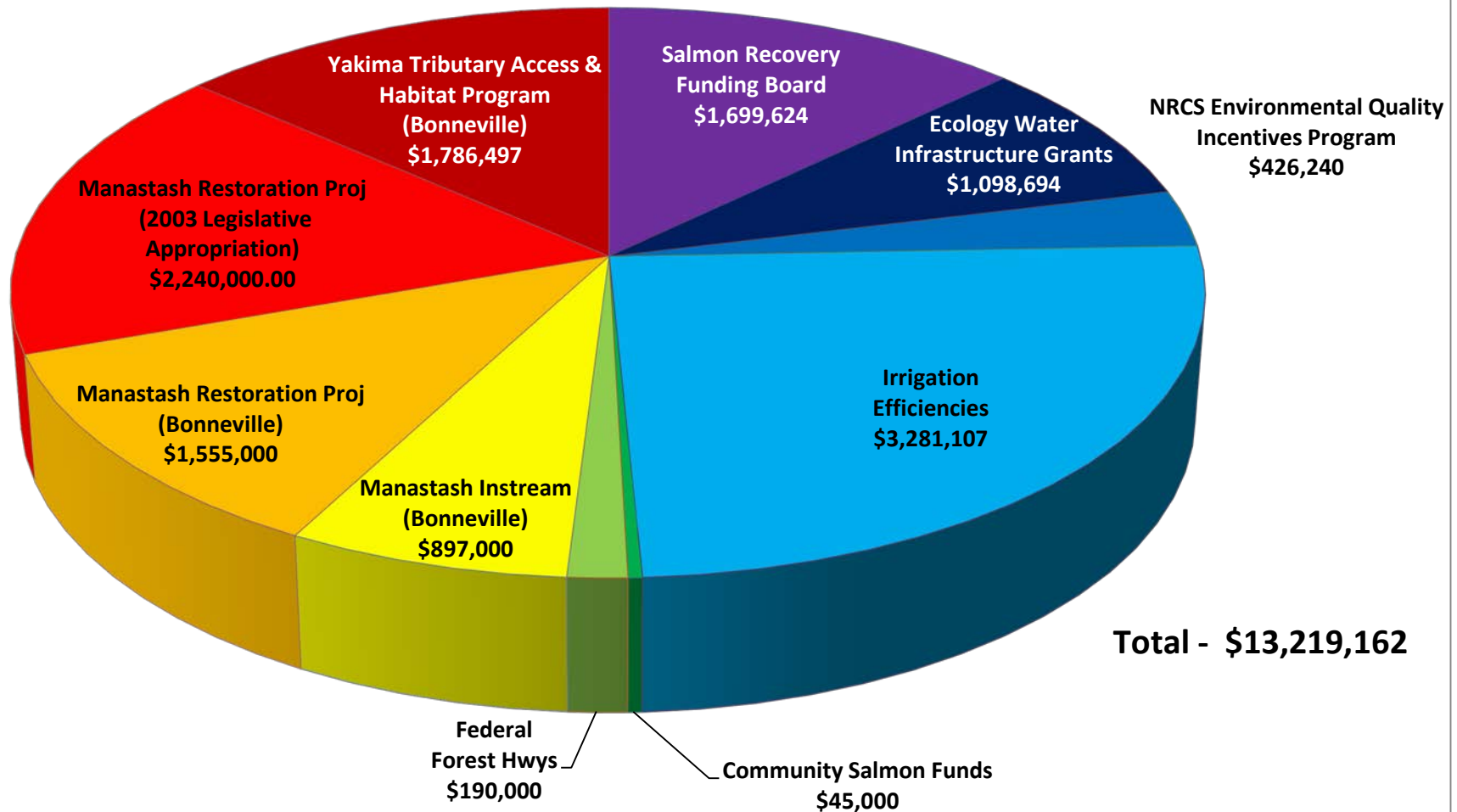
**Presentation to Yakima Basin Science & Management Conference  
June 12, 2008  
Anna Lael, Kittitas County Conservation District**

# Kittitas County Conservation District

- Political sub-division of the State
- Work with landowners in a non-regulatory manner through incentive based programs
- Work with other agencies or groups to address natural resource issues
- Primarily grant funded (state, federal and local)
- Board of Supervisors- 5 local landowners
- Staff of seven to implement programs/projects



## Funding Sources for Projects to Benefit Fish In Kittitas County (2002 to Present)



The Kittitas County Conservation District has secured over **\$13 million** for projects that provide direct benefits to fish habitat by protecting fish from entrainment (installing fish screens); removing or correcting barriers to fish passage; or installing fishways, and improving habitat conditions (planting in riparian areas, installing large woody debris, reducing tailwater from irrigated lands, and/or improving in-stream flow). As of March 2008, approximately 55% of these funds have been expended. The balance is committed to projects that are currently in progress.

# Irrigation Efficiencies Program (IEP)

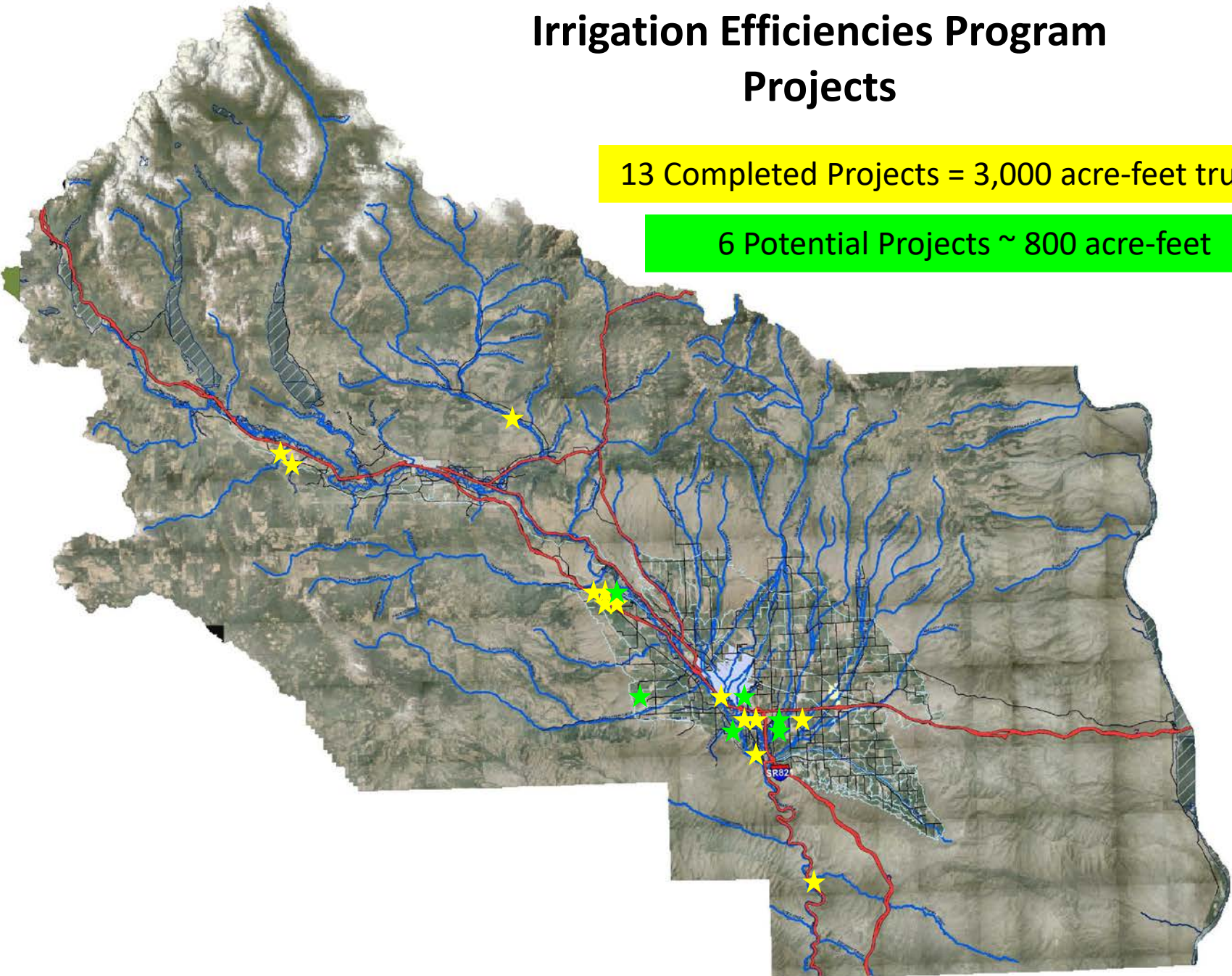
A large center pivot irrigation system is visible in the background, stretching across a field. In the foreground, a dirt road runs alongside the system, with several white PVC pipes lying on the ground. The background shows a rolling hill under a cloudy sky.

- Grew out of response to 2001 Drought
- Provides cost share (up to 85%) to improve irrigation application or delivery systems
- Requires “saved” water to be enrolled in the Trust Water Rights Program
- Must provide fish benefit (e.g. on priority stream reach or added benefit)

# Irrigation Efficiencies Program Projects

13 Completed Projects = 3,000 acre-feet trusted

6 Potential Projects ~ 800 acre-feet





# IEP Results to Date

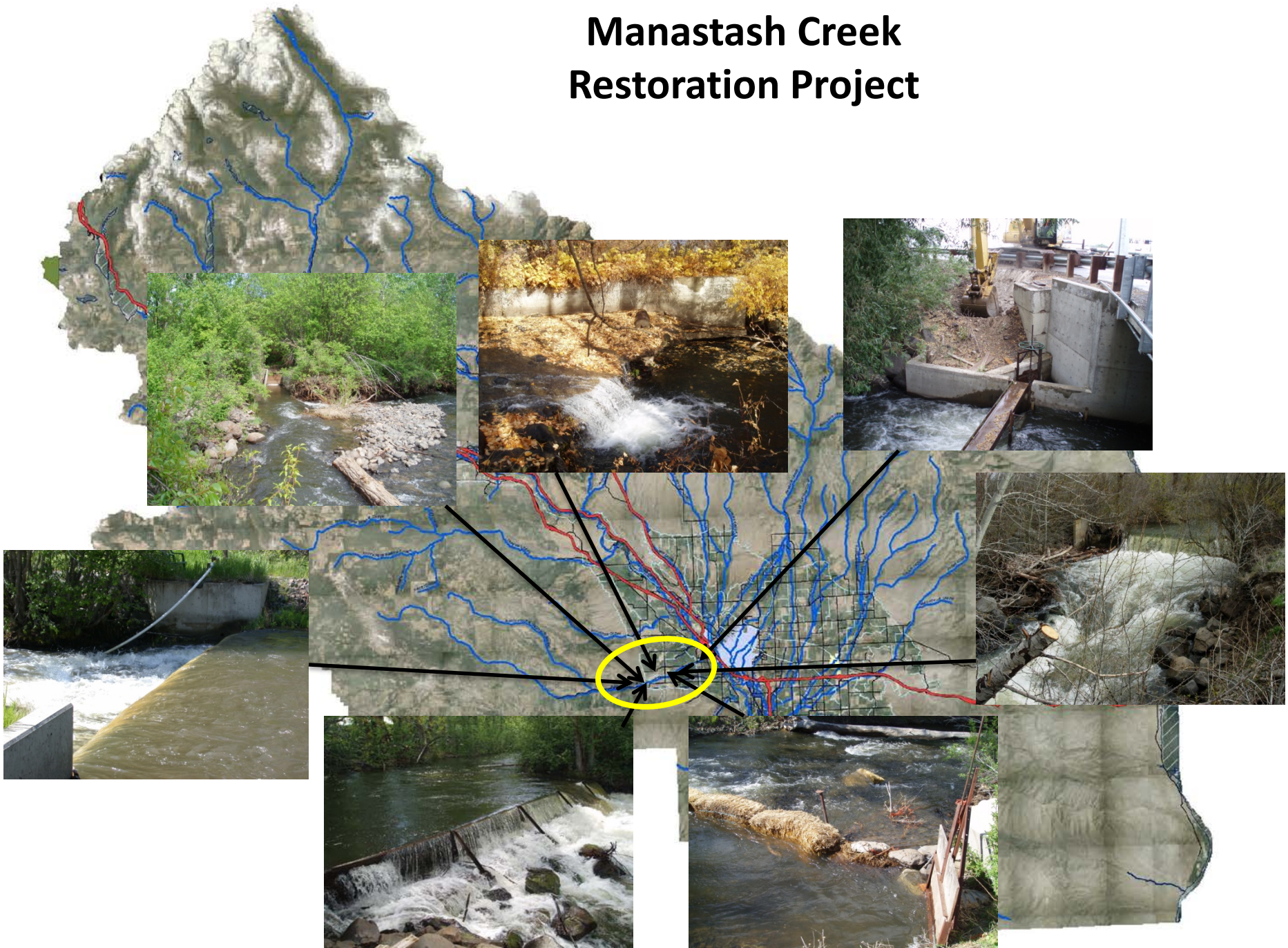
- **Thirteen projects completed since 2003**
- **3057 Acre-Feet trusted for 10 to 25 years**
  - Big Creek, Teanaway River, Taneum Creek, Wilson Creek, Little Naneum Creek, Coleman Creek, Cooke Creek, Caribou Creek, Naneum Creek
- **\$3 million in cost share toward \$4.3 million in total project cost**
- **Associated project benefits (fish screens, fish passage, water quality improvements)**

# Manastash Creek Restoration Project

A photograph of a river with a concrete weir structure in the foreground, surrounded by green grass and trees. The water is flowing over the weir, creating white rapids. The background shows a lush green bank with trees and bushes.

- **Initiated after listing of summer steelhead as threatened in Mid-Columbia**
- **Steering Committee formed including irrigators, WDFW, Ecology, Yakama Nation, Washington Environmental Council**
- **Addressing screening, passage and in-stream flow on lower 6 miles of Manastash Creek to achieve access to 20 miles above**

# Manastash Creek Restoration Project





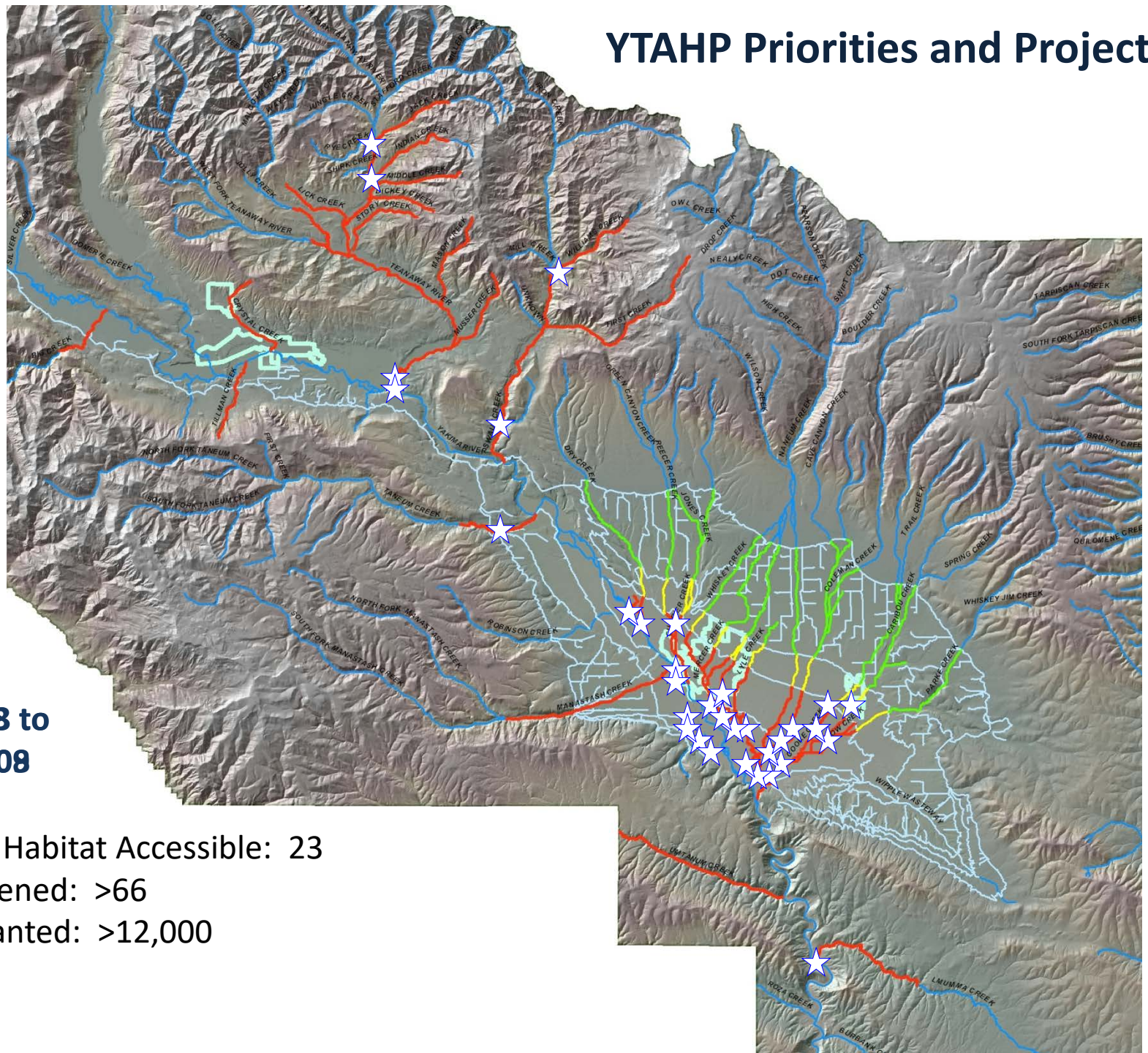
# Manastash Creek Restoration Project

- Dozens of meetings over 5 years
- Implementation Plan Completed (Dec '07)
  - Ownership of screening facilities, long term O&M
  - Consolidation Plan (Anderson, Reed, Hatfield to MWDA)
  - Initial goal of 6 cubic feet per second dedicated to in-stream flow
  - In-stream flow improvements continue until Steering Committee agrees all reasonable actions implemented
- Fish screen and passage work planned for fall '08
  - Barnes Road, Keach/Jensen, MWDA (& Consolidated)
- Conservation projects planned for '08 and beyond
  - Pipe Menastash Water Ditch Association
  - Sprinkler Conversions

# Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program (YTAHP)

- Initiated in 2003 by KCCD, NYCD, KCWP, Ahtanum Irrigation District and WDFW. Joined by Yakama Nation, South Central RC&D, Kittitas Conservation Trust and Mid-Columbia RFEG
- Focus on fish screen, fish passage and fish habitat projects in KCCD and NYCD
- Base funding through Bonneville Power Administration
- Matching funds from Salmon Recovery Funding Board, Irrigation Efficiencies Program, NRCS EQIP, Ecology (Water Infrastructure), Western Federal Lands Hwy Division, Community Salmon Funds

# YTAHP Priorities and Projects



**2008 to  
2008**

Miles of Habitat Accessible: 23

CFS screened: >66

Trees Planted: >12,000



08/26/2003







GORBEL 2<sup>ton</sup>

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# Reasons for YTAHP Success To Date

- **Matching Funds from Other Programs**
  - \$1.7 million base funding from BPA
  - \$7 million in match from six different sources
- **Core Team, Technical Work Group Meetings, Permit Guru**
- **Partnerships**- no projects have been completed without partnering of funds and/or agencies
- **Landowner Willingness**



*Thank You!*

**Anna Lael, District Manager**

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