

# Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program

A scenic landscape featuring a river with patches of ice, snow-covered hills, and tall evergreen trees under a cloudy sky. The river flows from the background towards the foreground, with several large, flat ice floes floating in it. The surrounding hills are covered in a light layer of snow, and the sky is overcast with soft, grey clouds. In the foreground, there are some dry, yellowish-brown grasses and a small white post.

Yakima Science &  
Management Conference  
Dave Myra, RC&D  
2009

# “Y-Tap”



## Goals:

**To Help the Resource by  
Assisting Landowners &  
Water Rights Holders.**

# YTAHP



## Goals:

- ✓ **Restore Salmonid Access**
- ✓ **Enhance Stream Habitat**
- ✓ **Screen Diversions**

# Early Participants

- Kittitas County Conservation District
- North Yakima Conservation District
- Kittitas County Water Purveyors
- WA Department of Fish & Wildlife
- SCW RC&D Council
- Ahtanum Irrigation District
- Bureau of Reclamation (contributed early on)
- Yakama Nation (contributed early on)

# Current Participants



- KCCCD - Anna Lael, DJ Shook, others
- NYCD - Mike Tobin, Justin Bader
- WDFW – Richard Visser, Jennifer Scott
- Kittitas Conservation Trust – David Gerth
- Mid-Columbia FEG - Rebecca Wassell
- Yakama Nation – Hank Fraser
- RC&D Council – Dave Myra, Carol Ready
- BOR – Patrick Monk

# Start Up



- Fish Listings Created “Need”
- Screening Workshop in Ellensburg
  - ❖ August 2000 - 100 Attendees
- Networking with Resource Managers
- Grant Applications
  - ❖ BPA Columbia Basin Solicitation, 2001
  - ❖ BPA Drought Response, 2001

# YTAHP Approach

- Voluntary
- Incentive Based
- Technical & Financial Assistance
- Holistic View
- Compatible & Complementary

(Water Meters,  
Irrigation Efficiencies,  
EQIP)



# Funding

- **BPA** ~\$5.84 million since FY02
- **SRFB** 6 grants totaling \$977,000 since 2002
- **WCC** Engineering Services Grant \$29,000/yr (2003)
- **WCC** Irrigation Program grant, \$555,425
- **NRCS - EQIP**
- **NFWF** - Community Clean Water Funds \$45,000
- **Conveyance Infrastructure** – Ref 38, \$1,110,200
- **DOT Gas Tax** - Grant to City of Kittitas, \$300,000
- **Landowner contributions** (cash and in-kind)

~\$10+ Million



# YTAHP Successes

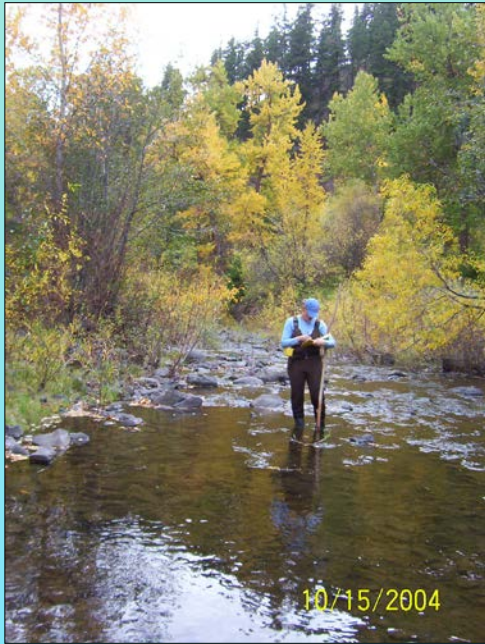


- **WDFW Permit Writer**
- **RC&D Administration**
- **Matching Funds**
- **Tributary Teams**
- **Wide Collaboration**
- **Local Voice in Recovery**

# Accomplishments

## 2002-2009

- 69 Projects
- 280 Stream Miles Surveyed
- Tributary Teams Initiated
- ~6,000 contacts
- Program Infrastructure
- Building Local Expertise



# 69 Projects



- 28 Passage (full, partial barriers)
- 49 Screens
  - ❖ 34 Pump; 15 Gravity Screens
- 3 Siphons
- 30 Restoration Projects
  - ❖ Riparian, Instream, Fencing
- 3 Bridges
- > 10 Water Meters

# Metrics

- 88 cfs Screened:
  - ❖ 22.6 cfs Pump Screened
  - ❖ 66.4 cfs Gravity Screened
- 4.48 cfs Trusted
- 92 Structures:
  - ❖ 26 Rock/66 Root wads
- 45 Miles Habitat Opened
- 26 Acres of Riparian Planted



# 2009-10 Focus

- ~90 Projects on “To Do” list
- Expect ~25 projects
- Pump & Gravity Screens
- Barrier Removals
- Habitat (Riparian & Instream)
- Continuing Coordination



# On Deck

- **Taneum Creek Passage**

- ❖ Bruton + Taneum Ditch
- ❖ 26 mi Habitat Available

- **Yakima-Tieton Swap**

- ❖ 7.8 cfs trusted water

- **Indian + Jack Creek**

- ❖ 20 mi Habitat



# YTAHP Presentations

**Accomplishments,  
Challenges,  
Planned Projects,  
Insights  
&  
Observations**

- **Dave Myra, RC&D**
- **Carol Ready, RC&D**
- **Richard Visser, WDFW**
- **David Gerth, KCT**
- **Anna Lael, KCCD**
- **Justin Bader, NYCD**
- **Hank Fraser, YN**



# Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program

Carol Ready





# Carol Ready

- *Early Needs, Chaos & Vision...*
- Klamath Falls, Methow: **Not Good Examples**
- BPA Grant Applications
- BPA Presentations
- Strategic Plan
- “Early Action” Project List
- Working out some Kinks

# Outreach & Education



- City & County Leaders
- Grower Groups & Water Users
- Agency Programs & Managers
- Other Efforts: Ag, Fish & Water, F&F, 4(d)
- Tours: Electeds, Agency Reps, Groups
- Conferences & Training
- Meeting the Funders: BPA, SRFB, Ecology
- ‘Seat at the Table’ for Constituents

# Cooke Creek Siphon – 2003



# Cooke Creek-EWC Siphon



# Carrier Creek Siphon – 2003/9





# Reecer Creek Floodplain Restoration



Downstream  
of Carrier  
\$1M ++

# Reecer Creek Floodplain Restoration

City of Ellensburg

~69 acres

Flood Control

Habitat

Trails

Education

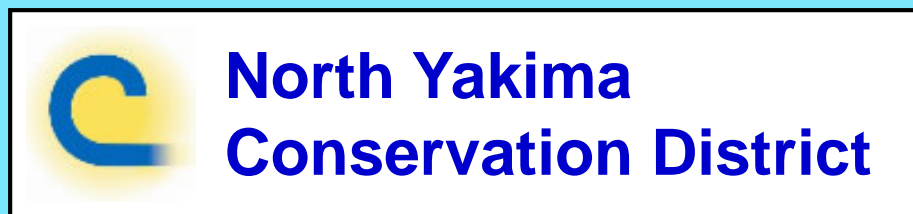


# YTAHP Themes

- Voluntary
- Cooperative
- Core Team Function
  - ❖ Seek other \$\$\$
- Permit Sanity\*
- Monitoring\*
- Design Flexibility
- Work **with** Landowners, Water Right Holders
- ↓ “Hassle Factor”
  - ❖ RC&D-BPA
  - ❖ One stop
- Projects vs Planning



# Yakima Tributary Access & Habitat Program





**WDFW**

# **Technical Services**

**Richard Visser**

Area Habitat Biologist

WA Department of Fish & Wildlife

Yakima Office



## Technical Support Team

- Screening, Passage, and Bypass
- Environmental Engineering
- Environmental Permitting
- Fish Biology & Monitoring



**David Gerth**  
Director

# Kittitas Conservation Trust



- **Mission:** To protect and enhance fish and wildlife habitat, open space, cultural and recreational resources, and scenic views in the Upper Yakima River Basin.
- **3 Trustees:** WDFW, YN, Suncadia
- KCT is a private, non-profit, conservation corporation founded in 2002.

# Organization

- **KCT:** YN, WDFW & Trendwest Resorts (Suncadia).
- **Cooperative Agreement:** describes the corporate structure of the Trust, conservation goals and objectives, and basic fiscal framework.
- **Primary Goal:** no net loss of productive fish and wildlife habitat in connection with the development of the 6,000 acre Suncadia master planned resort near Roslyn.
- **Incorporated:** in Washington on June 19, 2002
  - ❖ 501(c)(3)
  - ❖ 170(h) of the Internal Revenue Code



# Carrier Creek

- Tributary to Reecer Creek
- LB Tributary to Yakima River, RM153.7
- Seven barriers Removed:
  - ❖ Sites Restored
  - ❖ Revegetated
  - ❖ “Pautzke”
  - ❖ “Pott”
  - ❖ 5 on single landowner’s property



# Carrier Scope

- Riparian Restoration Plan
  - ❖ GeoEngineers
  - ❖ RM 0.69 to RM 1.75
  - ❖ Both banks 100 ft of OHWM
- Yakama Nation Coho Reintroduction
  - ❖ High Survival
  - ❖ Good Out-migration Success
- YTAHP – Permits (HPA, WQ, SEPA, ACOE)
  - ❖ Jennifer Scott, WDFW