

## **Update on the Status of Bull Trout in the Yakima Basin**

YUKI REISS; *Recovery Program Coordinator, Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board*

Bull trout (*Salvelinus confluentus*) is one of two ESA listed fish species in the Yakima basin. Yakima populations were listed as “threatened” in 1998 as part of the Columbia River DPS (Distinct Population Segment), and comprise the entire Mid-Columbia core population. The status of local populations in the Yakima basin has fluctuated. Redd count monitoring began in the early 1990s on a subset of local populations, and index areas for other populations have been established in subsequent years, including new discoveries such as a North Fork Tieton spawning population in 2007. Current proposed bull trout projects in the basin include a pit tagging study in the North Fork Tieton, a Bull Trout Task Force, and continued improvement of a genetics baseline.