



— BUREAU OF —  
RECLAMATION

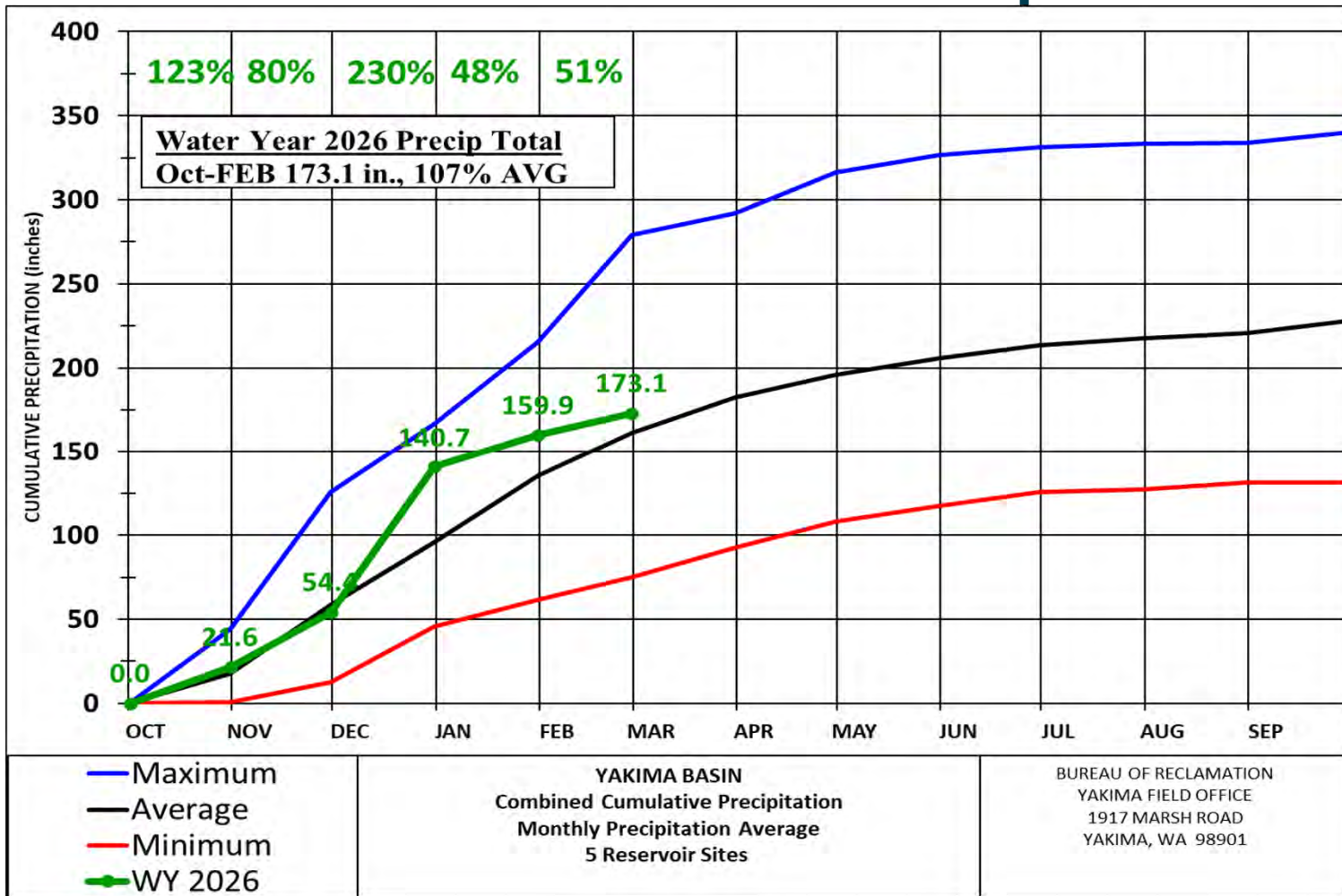
# Yakima Project Water Status March Water Year 2026

Presented for YBIP

Teresa Hauser

March 11, 2026

# Yakima Basin Reservoir Precipitation

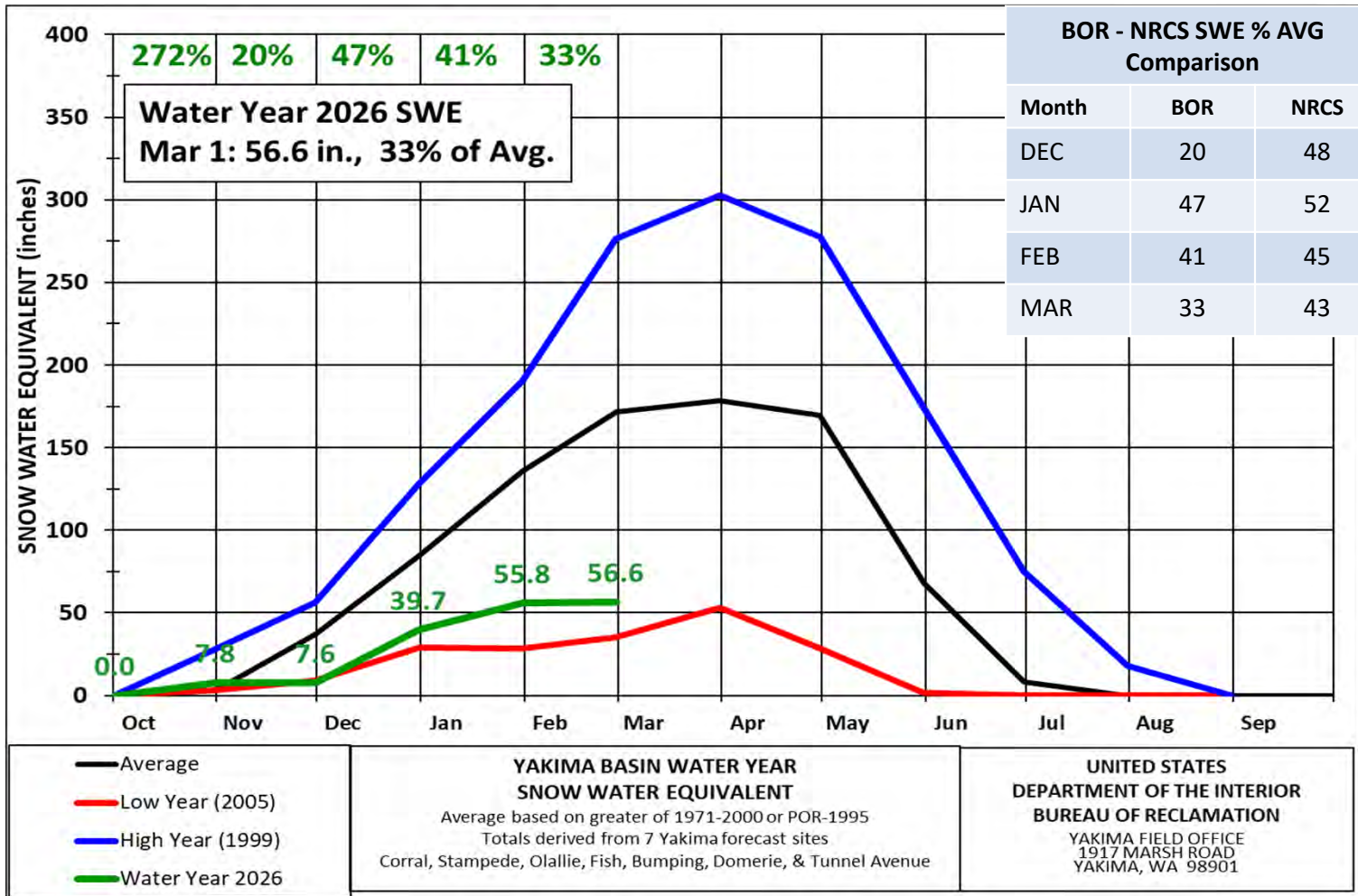


<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/yakwebaread.html>

Provisional data subject to revision



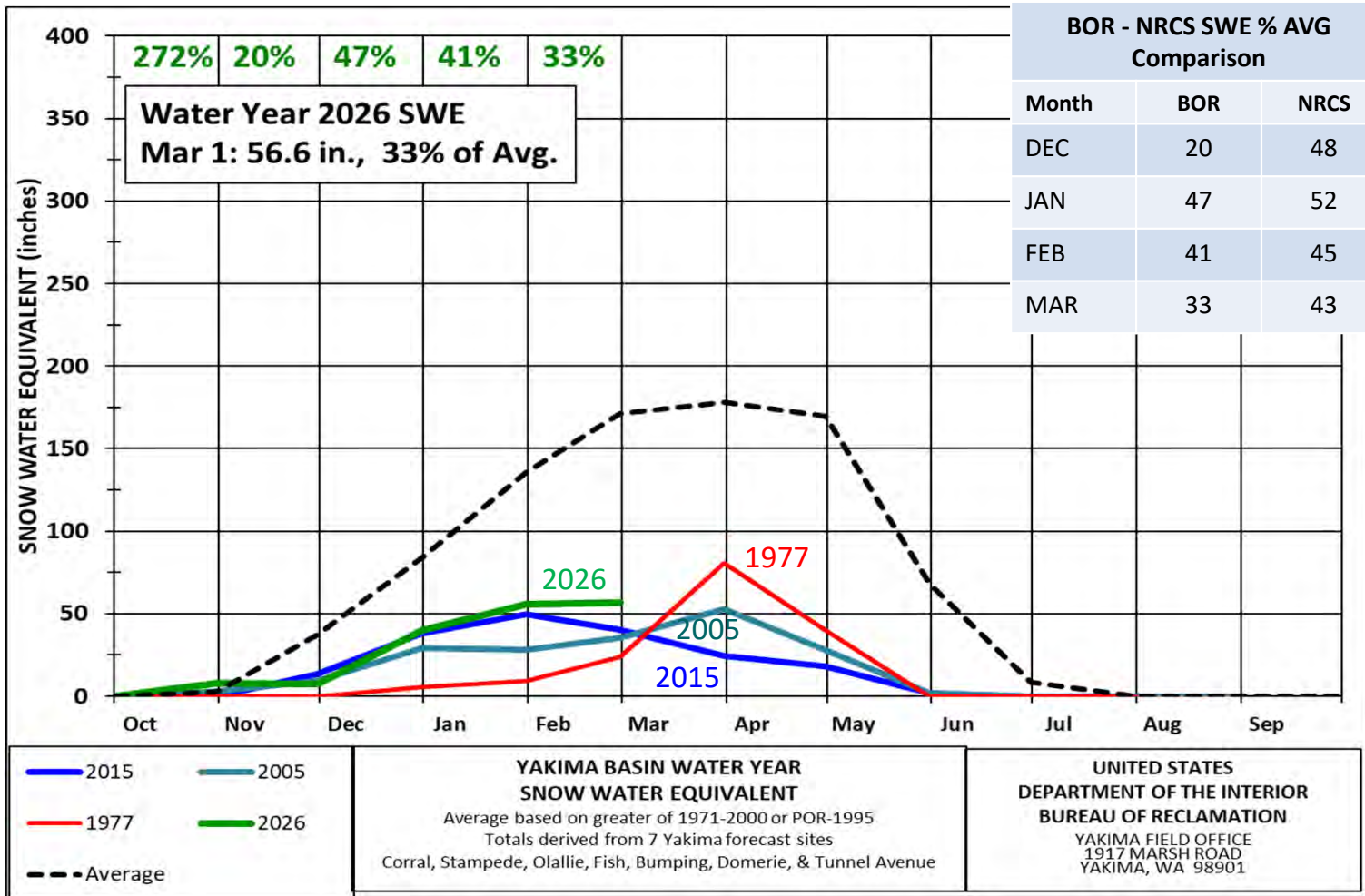
# Yakima Basin Snow Water Equivalent



Provisional data subject to revision



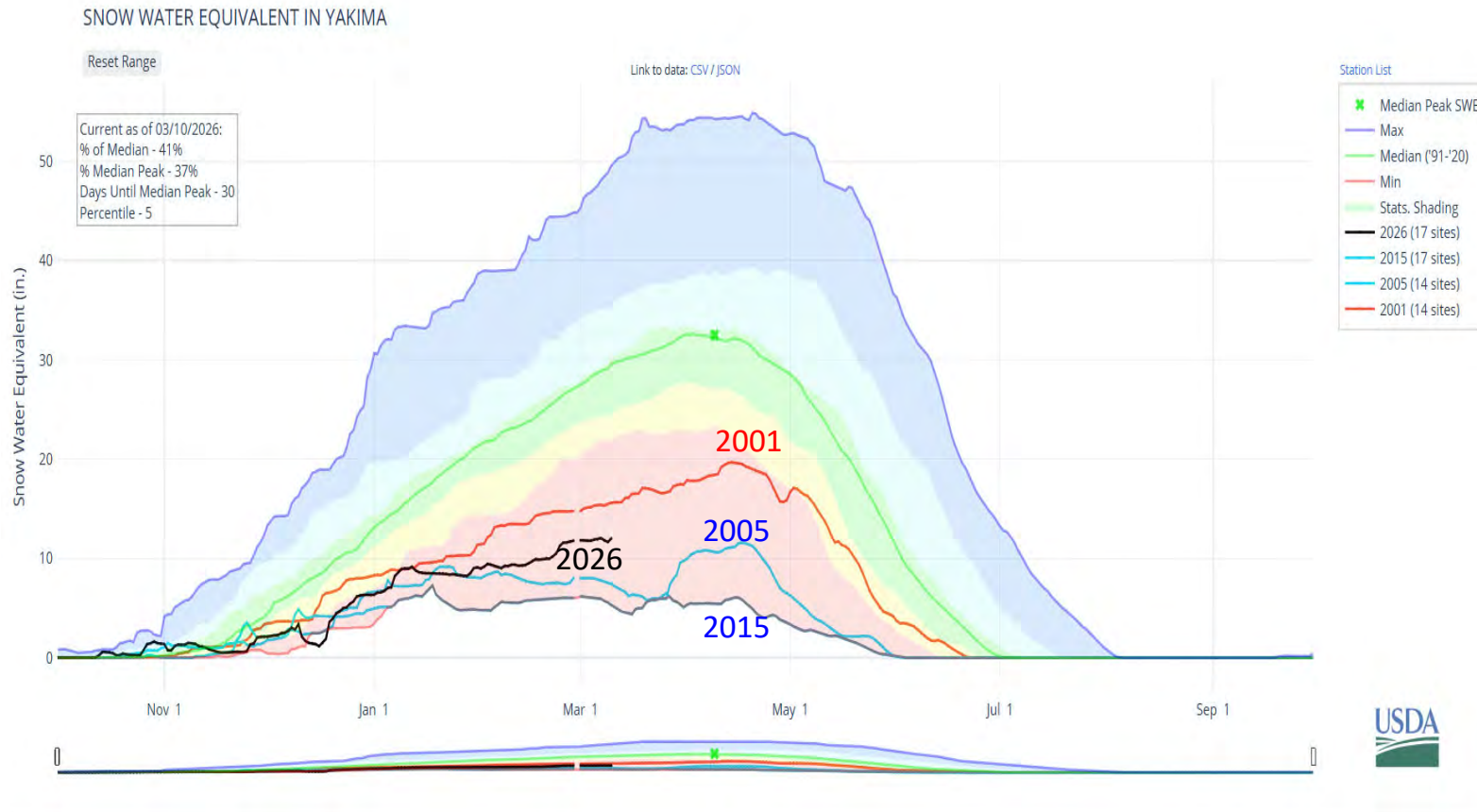
# Yakima Basin Snow Water Equivalent



Provisional data subject to revision

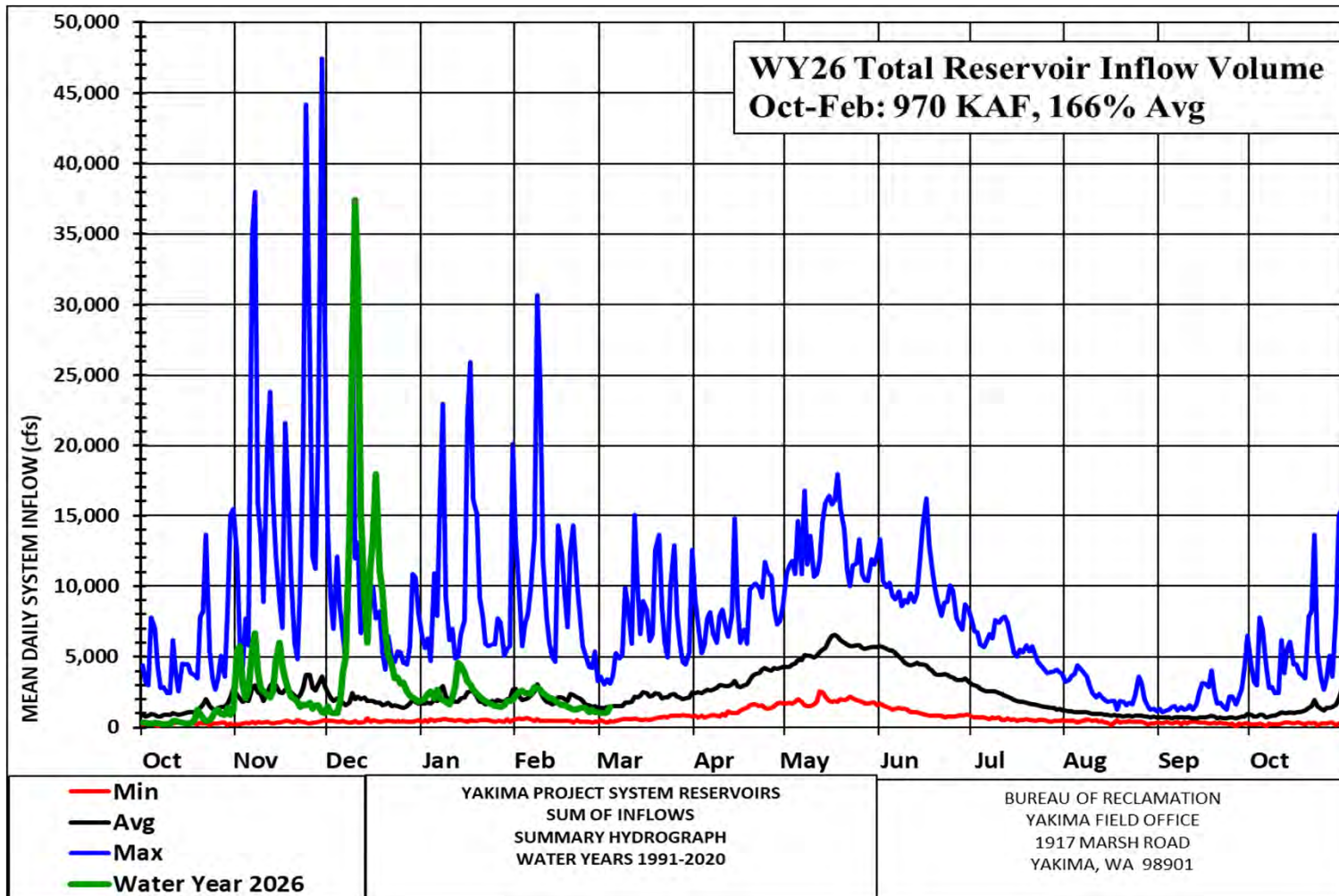


# NRCS SWE Yakima Basin



[https://nwcc-apps.sc.egov.usda.gov/awdb/basin-plots/POR/WTEQ/assocHUC4/1703\\_Yakima.html](https://nwcc-apps.sc.egov.usda.gov/awdb/basin-plots/POR/WTEQ/assocHUC4/1703_Yakima.html)

# Reservoir Unregulated Hydrograph

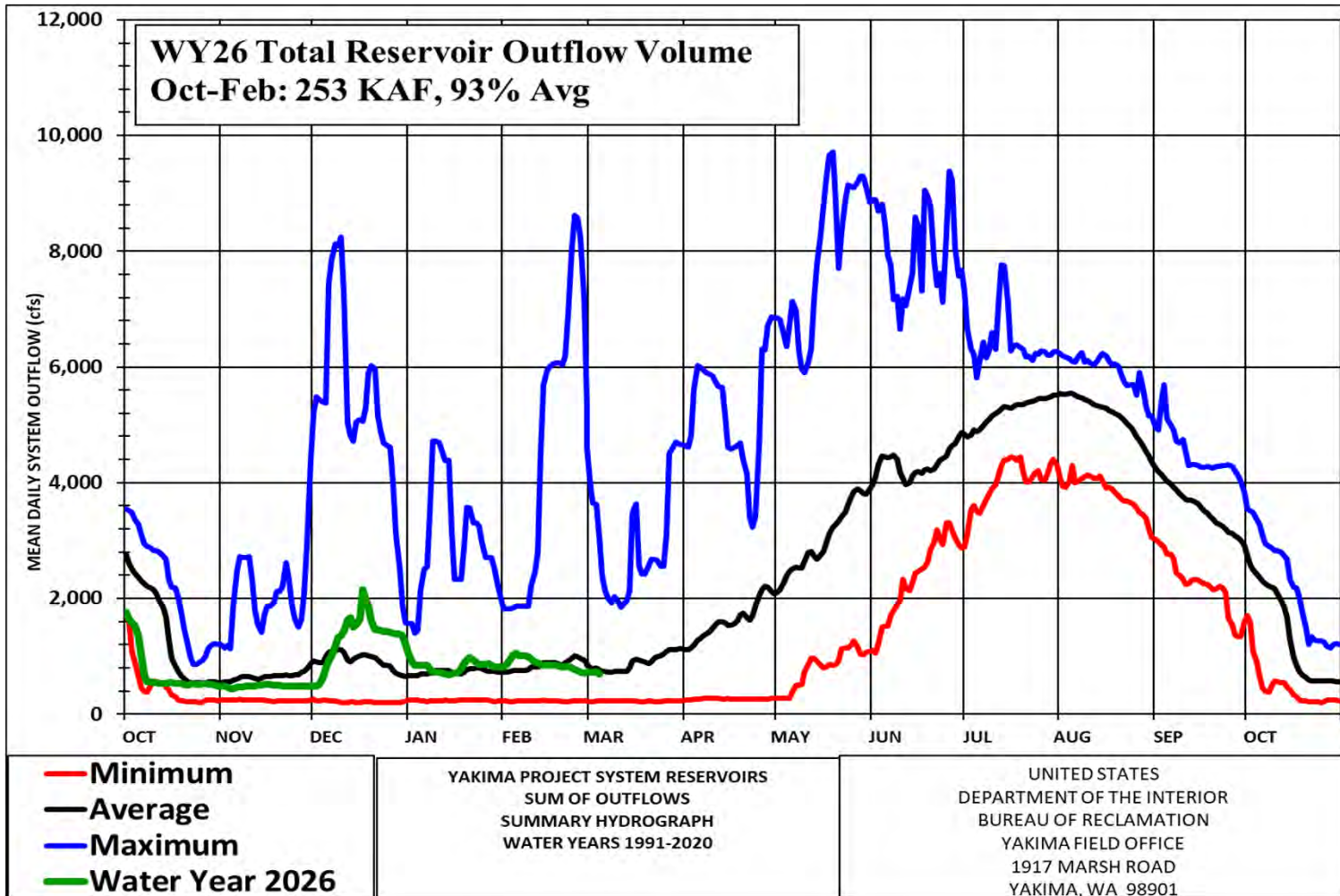


<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/yakwebaread.html>

Provisional data subject to revision



# Reservoir Regulated Hydrograph

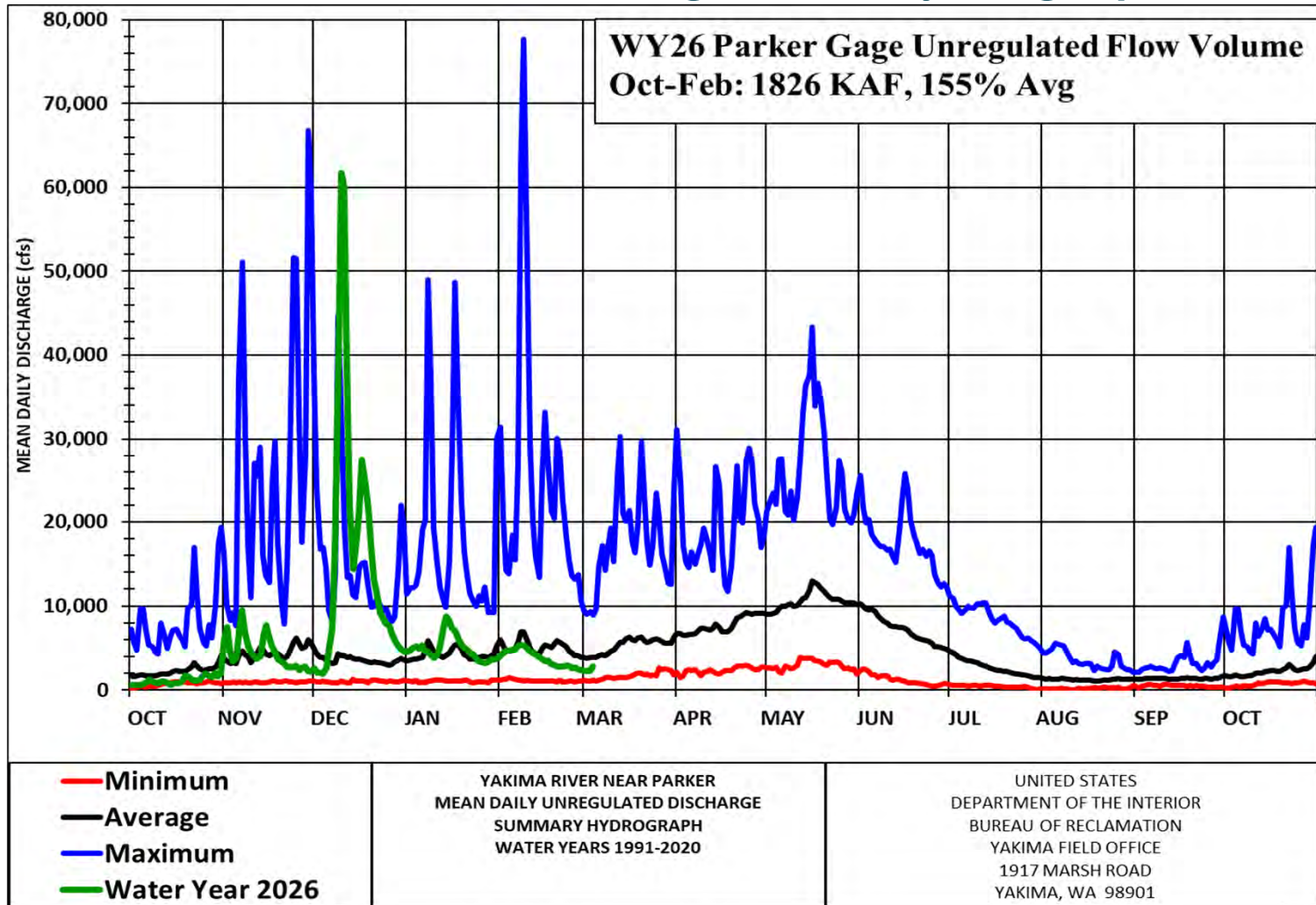


<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/yakwebaread.html>

Provisional data subject to revision



# Yakima River @ Parker Unregulated Hydrograph

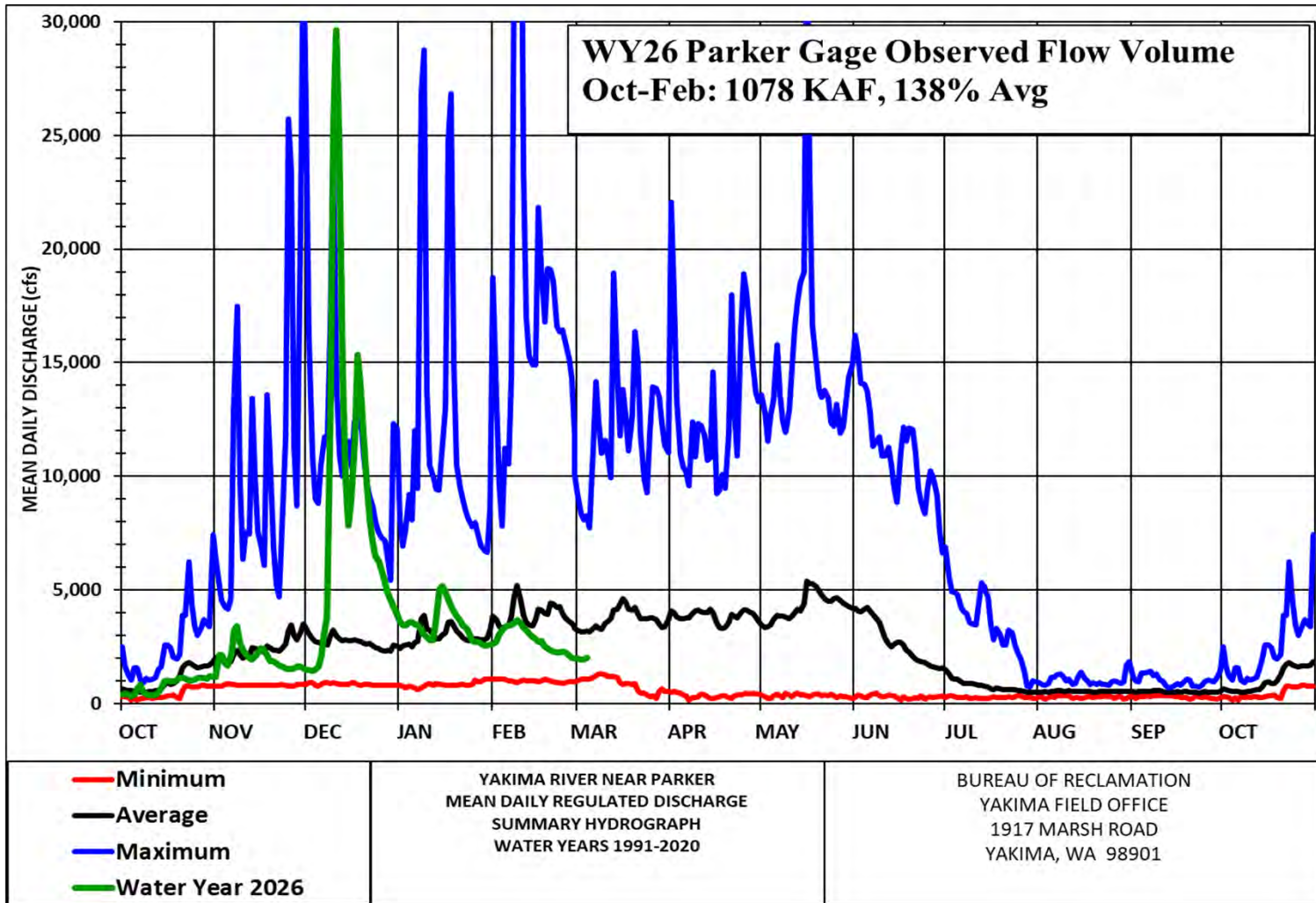


<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/yakwebaread.html>

Provisional data subject to revision



# Yakima River @ Parker Observed Hydrograph

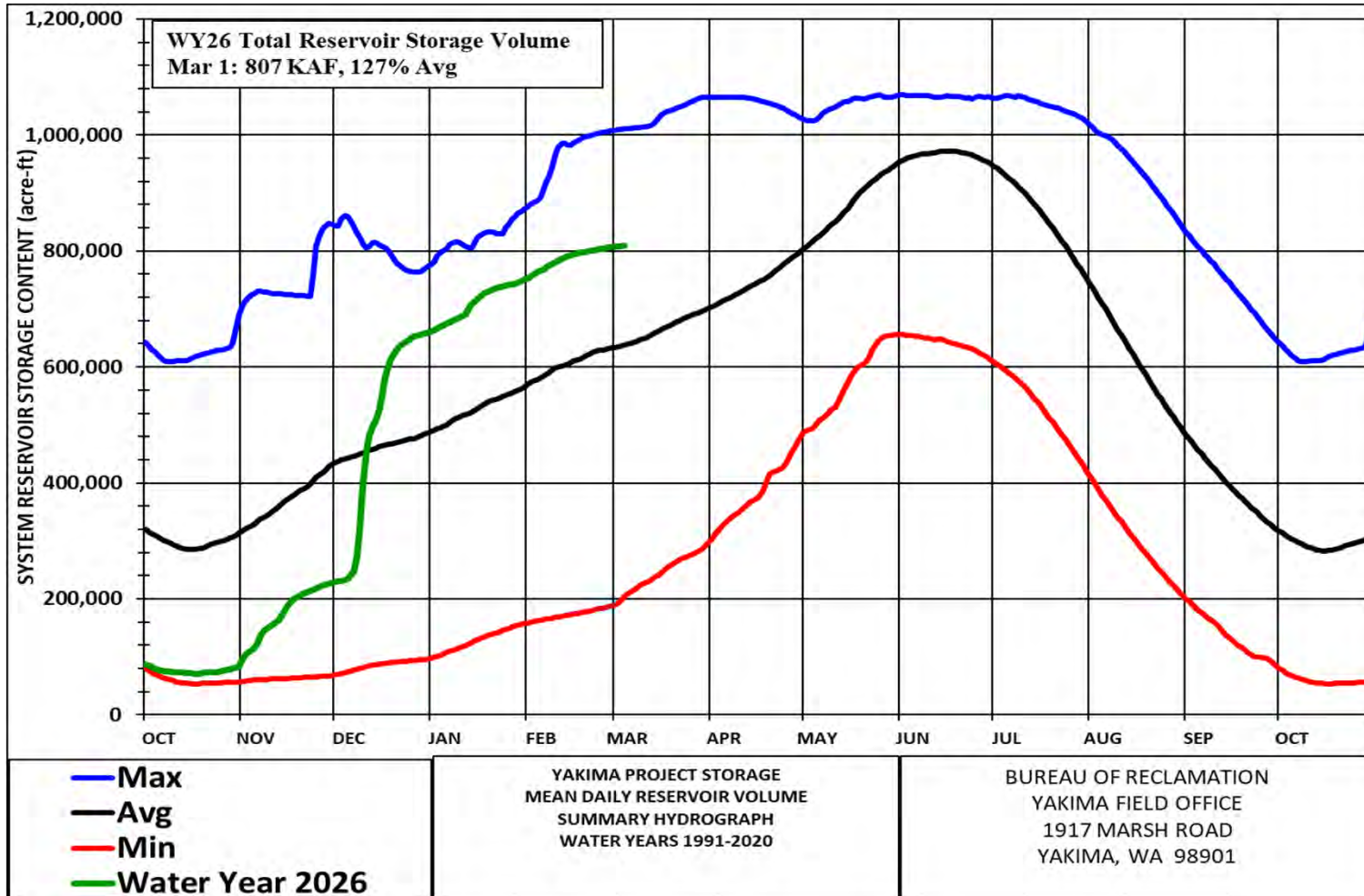


<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/yakwebaread.html>

Provisional data subject to revision



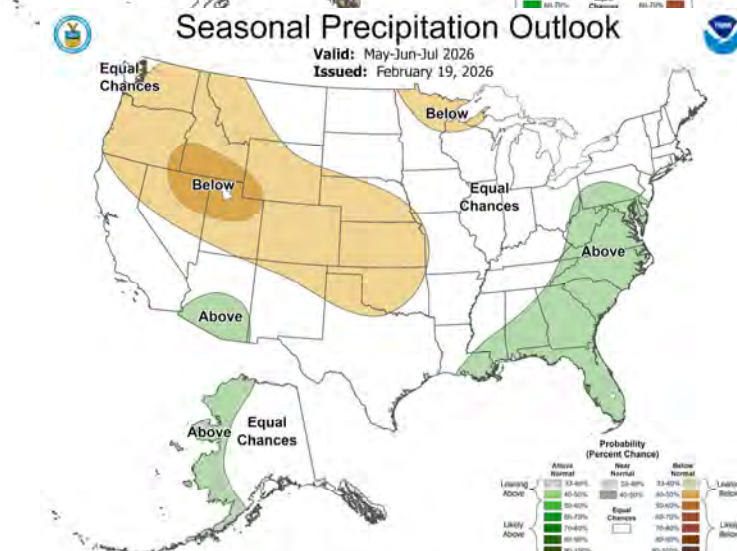
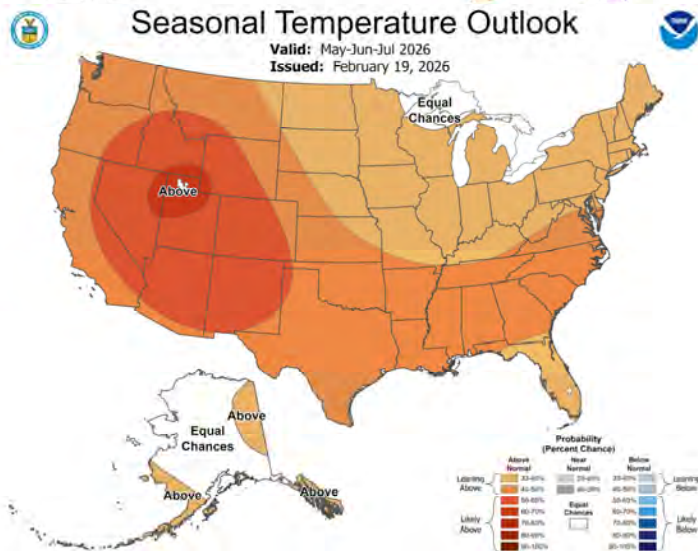
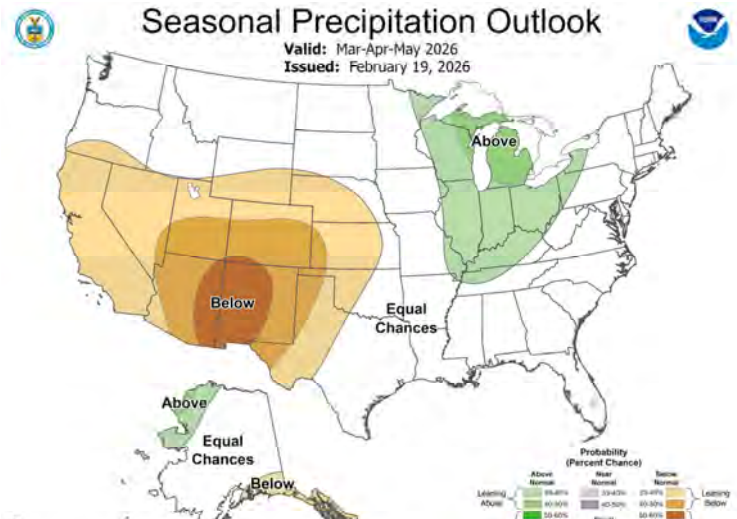
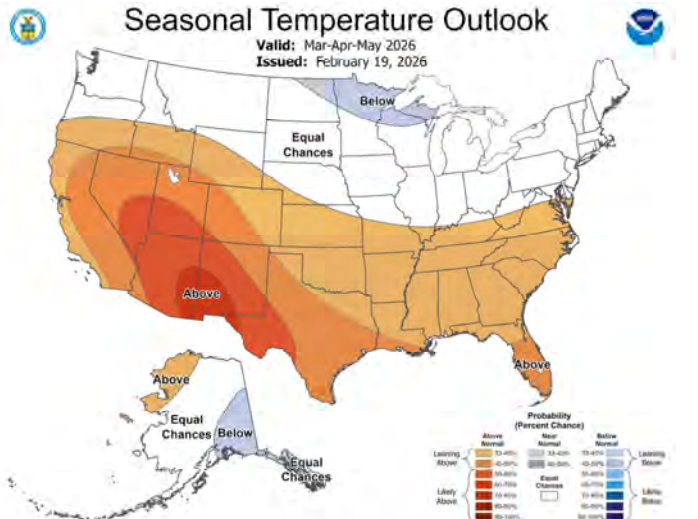
# Yakima System Storage Hydrograph



<https://www.usbr.gov/pn/hydromet/yakima/yakwebaread.html>

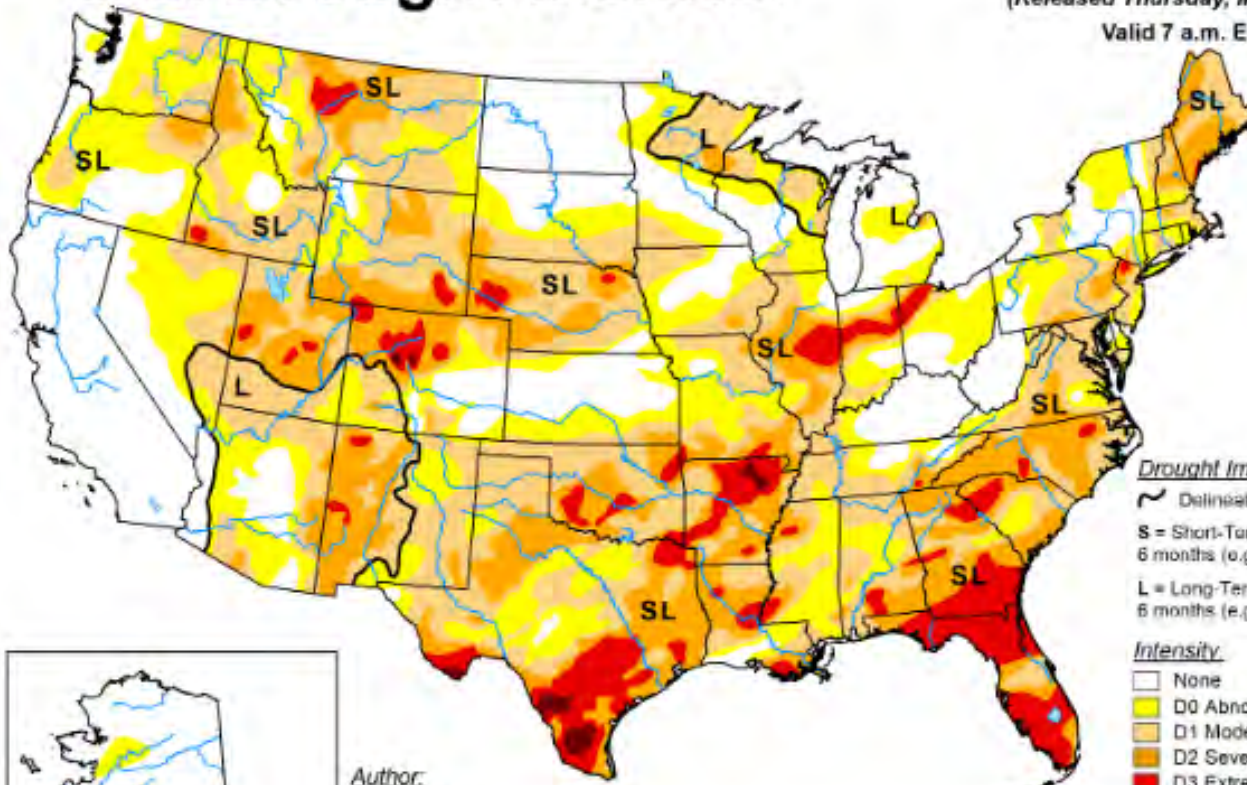
Provisional data subject to revision

# CPC 90-Day Forecasts



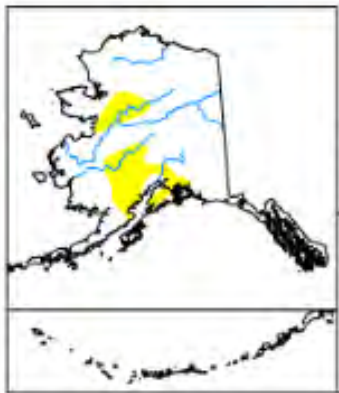
# U.S. Drought Monitor

March 3, 2026  
(Released Thursday, Mar. 5, 2026)  
Valid 7 a.m. EST

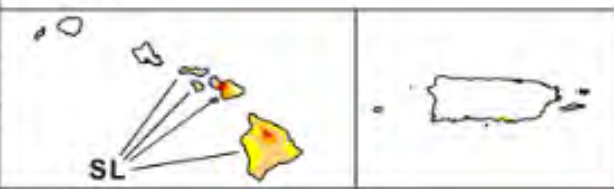


**Drought Impact Types:**  
~ Delineates dominant impacts  
S = Short-Term, typically less than 6 months (e.g. agriculture, grasslands)  
L = Long-Term, typically greater than 6 months (e.g. hydrology, ecology)

**Intensity:**  
None  
D0 Abnormally Dry  
D1 Moderate Drought  
D2 Severe Drought  
D3 Extreme Drought  
D4 Exceptional Drought



Author:  
Brad Pugh  
CPC/NOAA



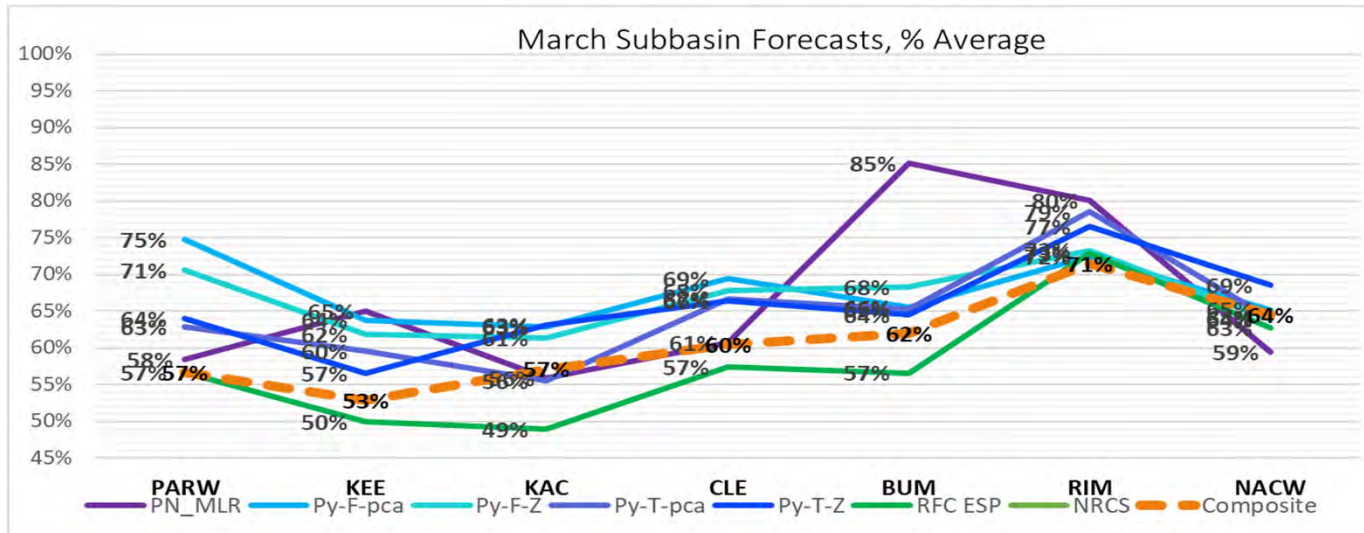
The Drought Monitor focuses on broad-scale conditions. Local conditions may vary. For more information on the Drought Monitor, go to <https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu/About.aspx>



[droughtmonitor.unl.edu](https://droughtmonitor.unl.edu)



# Water Supply Sub-Basin Forecasts WY26



Yakima Basin Forecast MAR-JUL 2026 (KAF) (% of 30-year Ave)						
3/1/2026	Low	Composite	High	Low	Composite	High
PARW	751	1,150	1,442	37%	57%	71%
KEE	63	73	109	45%	53%	79%
KAC	44	70	95	36%	57%	78%
CLE	193	260	349	45%	60%	81%
BUM	70	80	111	54%	62%	86%
RIM	131	155	200	60%	71%	92%
NACW	300	545	700	35%	64%	83%

\*Composite (Normal Subsequent Conditions)  
 \*Low (50% Normal Subsequent Conditions)  
 \*High (150% Normal Subsequent Conditions)  
 \*POR 1991-2020

Provisional data subject to revision



# WY26 Water Supply Forecast

Early-Bird March's April 1, 2026 TWSA ESTIMATE				
April 1 - September 30				
Parameter*	+/-/=	Low	Adopted	High
Apr 1-Sep 30 Natural Flow at Parker est.	+	642	760	1031
Return Flow Estimate, est	+	250	270	300
April 1, Reservoir Content, est	+	835	873	890
TWSA	=	<b>1727</b>	<b>1903</b>	<b>2221</b>
SEP 30 EST RESERVOIR CONTENT	-	76	76	76
FLOW OVER SUNNYSIDE DAM	-	191	200	230
TWSA FOR IRRIGATION	=	<b>1460</b>	<b>1627</b>	<b>1915</b>
NONPRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT	-	1070	1070	1070
YRPW-KID release		6	6	6
REMAINING TWSA	=	<b>384</b>	<b>551</b>	<b>839</b>
PRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT		1239	1239	1239
% RATIO= REMAINING TWSA/PRORATABLE ENTITLEMENT		<b>31%</b>	<b>44%</b>	<b>68%</b>
TITLE XII FLOW TARGET, cfs	April	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>	<b>300</b>
Added flow available, cfs **		tbd	106	tbd
*Values are in 1,000 ac-ft unless otherwise specified.				
** State & YRBWEP Trust, Acquisition, & Conservation additions to Title XII				



# Water Supply Summary

- March Storage 806 kaf, 76% capacity, 127% of Avg.
- Oct-Feb precip 107% avg.
- Yakima Basin SWE 33% avg.
  
- Early-bird TWSA forecast April-Sept
  - 100% for senior users
  - 44% for junior users
- Title XII targets on the low end, 300 cfs
  
- Need more snow





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# Next YFO Water Supply Update Meetings...

April 9, 2026 @ 10:30 am

May 7, 2026 @ 10:30 am

June 4, 2026 @ 10:30 am

# Cle Elum Pool Raise

Project Update



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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
State of Washington





# Current Status

- **Completed work**
  - Radial Gates Modification
  - Saddle Dikes 1, 2 & 3
  - Cle Elum River Campground
  - Speelyi Beach Day Use Area
  - Salmon La Sac Road embankment areas
  - Wish Poosh Campground & Boat Launch
  - Night Sky
  - Morgan Creek
  - Domerie Bay
  - Jackson Well
  - Timber Cove
- **Work In-progress**
  - Sandelin Lane Shoreline
- **Remaining shoreline protection work**
  - Speelyi Beach



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# Jackson Well / Spring Box



Spring Box (Before)

Spring Box (After)



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ECOLOGY  
State of Washington



# Timber Cove Shoreline Protection Project



**Lot 1 land acquisition**



**Revetment**



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State of Washington



# Sandelin Shoreline Protection Project



**Revetment #1**



**Revetment #2**



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State of Washington



# Speelyi Shoreline Protection Project



Tree Harvest to support Upper Reach Cle Elum River Aquatic Restoration



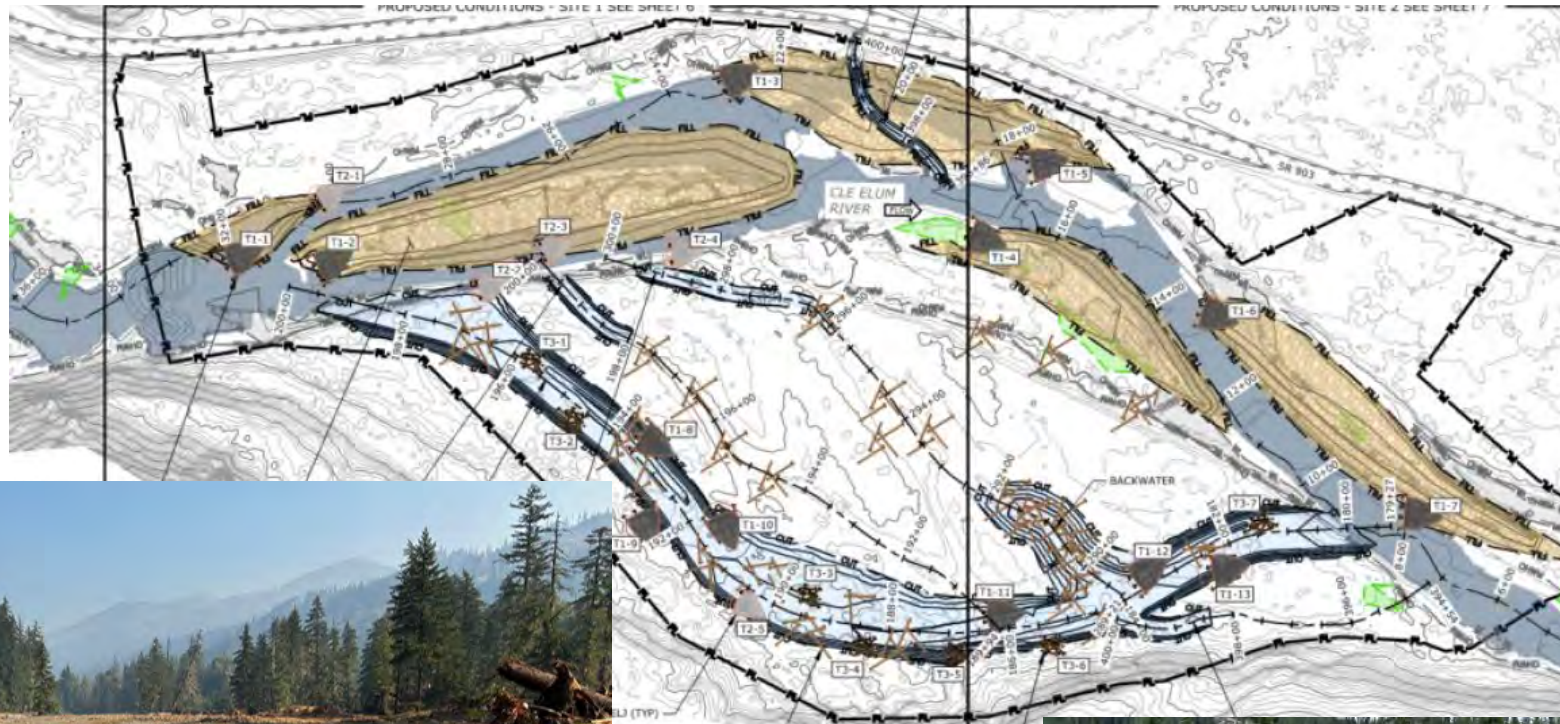
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DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
State of Washington



# Upper Reach Cle Elum River Aquatic Restoration



Side channel excavation



Constructed Side channel



Increased roughness



Gravel augmentation



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# Upper Yakima System Storage

*Urban Eberhart, Kittitas Reclamation District*

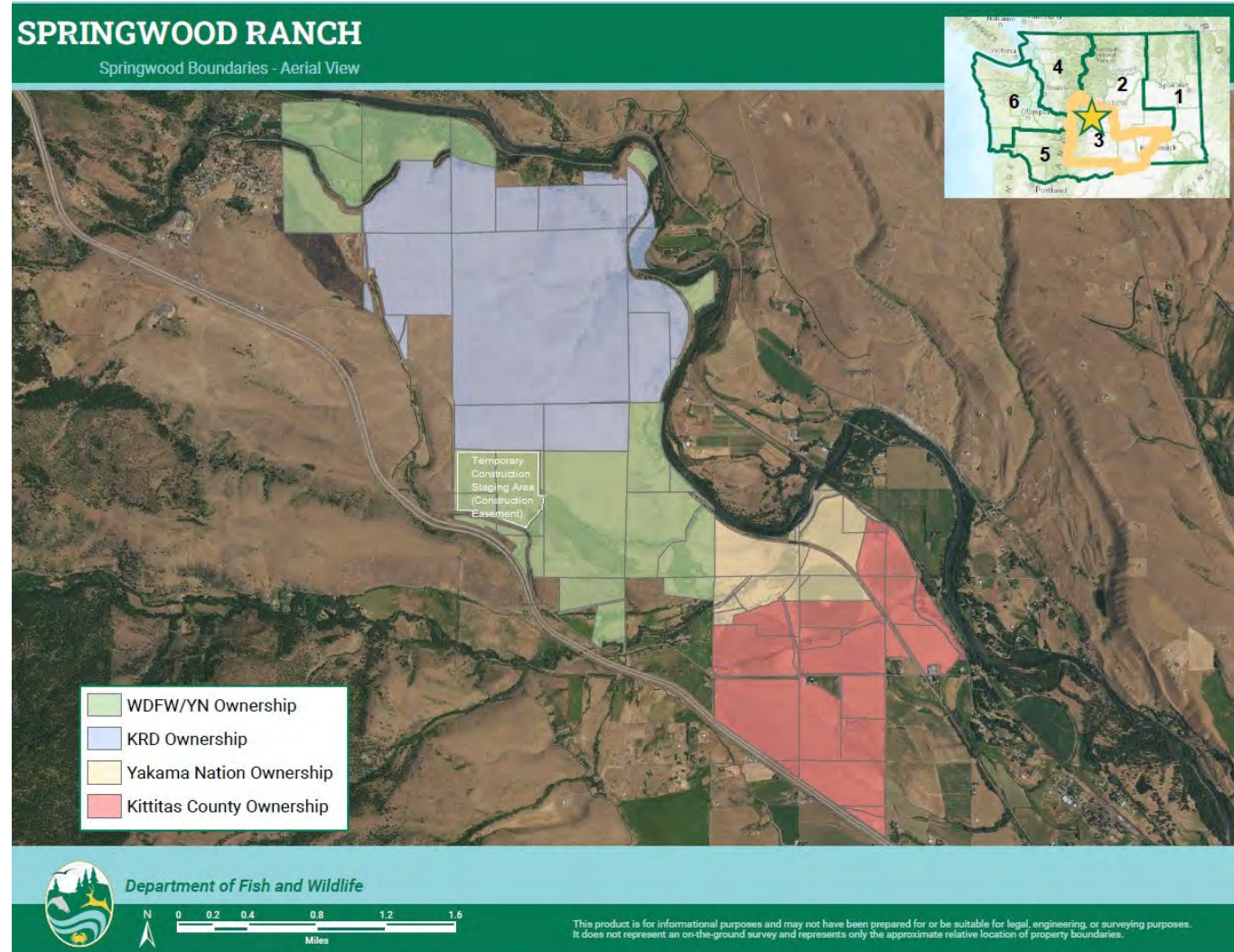


*YRBWEP Workgroup Meeting – March 11, 2026*

# Upper Yakima Basin Storage

## *Springwood Reservoir*

- Purchased by Trust for Public Lands, March 2023.
- Approximately 3600 acres.
- Transferred ownership, Oct 24.
  - Yakama Nation
  - WDFW
  - Kittitas Reclamation District
  - Kittitas County



# UPPER YAKIMA SYSTEM STORAGE

## SPRINGWOOD RESERVOIR



FIGURE 1. SPRINGWOOD SITE  
(2,175 FEET WSE)

Springwood Reservoir  
Upper Yakima System Storage

- ▬ Reservoir Footprint
- ▬ Maximum Dam Footprint
- ▬ Existing Road
- - - Proposed Road
- ▬ KRD Structure
- ▬ KRD Canal



**Jacobs**

Data Sources: Kittitas County, KRD, USGS, WSDOT  
 Basemap Source: Bing © 2023 Microsoft Corporation  
 Map Date: April 18, 2024

# Feasibility Study - Update

- Geotechnical Phase 1
  - Completed 2025
- Geotechnical Phase 2
  - April – November 2026
- 50%/50% cost share State/Federal



*Geotech core samples*



*Geotech drilling at Springwood, Fall 2025  
Photo by Jacobs Engineering*

# YAKIMA BASIN INTEGRATED PLAN

*Protecting water for our farms, fish, and communities*



## Roza Dam Fish Screens: 5x5 Update

**Scott Revell, Roza Irrigation District**

YRBWEP Workgroup

March 11, 2026

# Before the Roza Dam...



01 Diversion dam site, looking east from station 1 + 00 on axis of dam. R  
. Klingensmith. 8/28/1938.

**1939**

B-119 General view of diversion dam from the top of the cliff at the east end of the dam  
photo by E. C. Keeler. 10/7/1939.



# ROZA SCREEN SITE

\* PRIOR TO CONSTRUCTION OF THE  
CURRENT FACILITY



1970s



# ROZA SCREEN SITE

\* DIVERSION CAPACITY OF 2200 CFS

\* MAXIMUM FLOW OF 1215 CFS

MAY 1963

*1995 PHOTO*

**1995**



1990s





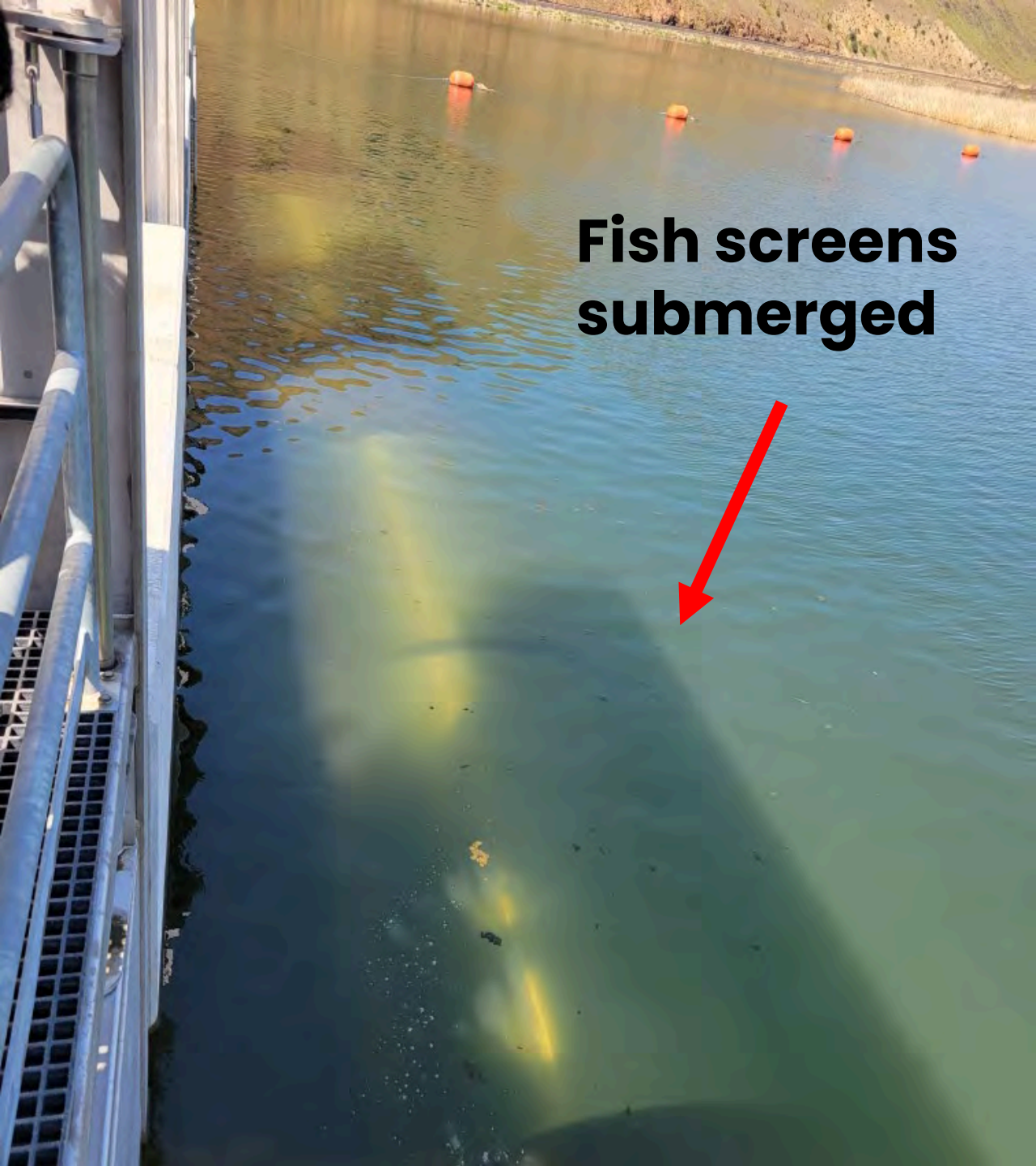


2024



**New fish screens (out of the water)**

**Fish screens  
submerged**





**March 2025  
Downriver view**



**March 2025  
View Up River**

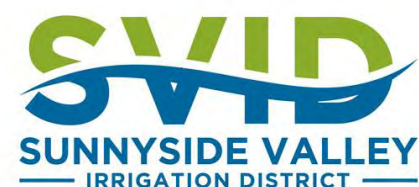
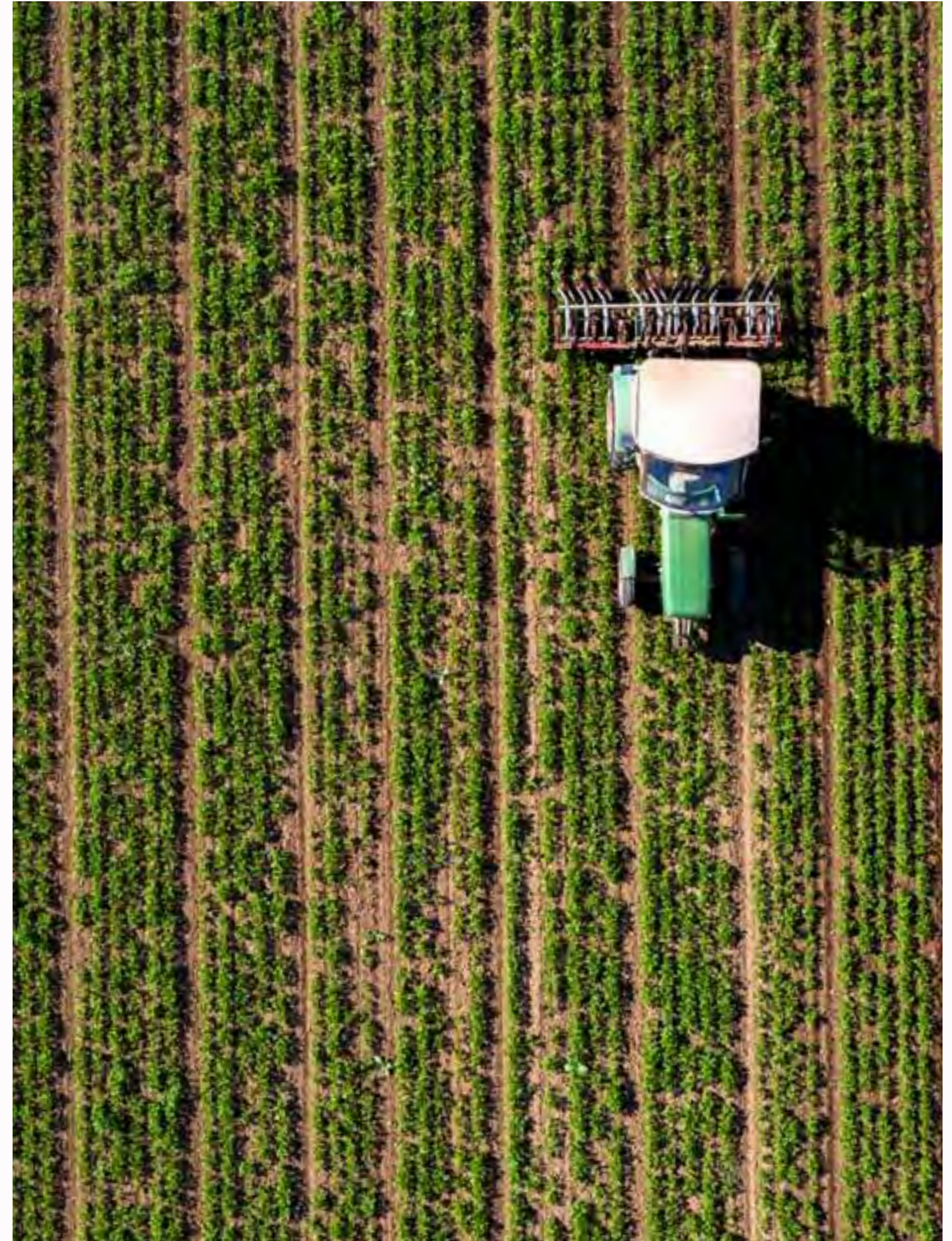
**Fish screens  
Complete!**





# *Sunnyside Division Board of Control*

Advancing water conservation in the  
Yakima Basin through strategic  
infrastructure upgrades



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# Sunnyside Division



- 94,000 acres with approximately 10,000 acres south of the Yakima River
- Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District is a member of the Sunnyside Division and makes up 95%
  - The other 5% is made of 5 cities and two private ditch companies.
- 5th largest irrigation district in WA
- The district is 69% non-proratable and 31% proratable.



# Water Conservation

Funded by the 1994 Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project Act (YRBWEP)

## Objective

Improve water conservation, increase efficiency, and support sustainable agricultural practices throughout the region.

- Voluntary Program with 2/3 of saved water devoted to in-stream flow purposes.
- Working in partnership with United States Bureau of Reclamation and Washington State Department of Ecology
- Multiple Benefits of conservation include, more efficient use of the water supply, water quality, and improved fishery benefits



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# ***Sunnyside Canal Improvement Project (SCIP)***

- Installed 30 fully automated check structures
- Constructed 3 re-regulation reservoirs
- Deployed Supervisory Control and Data Acquisition (SCADA) system
- Installed 3 repeater radio towers to support communications



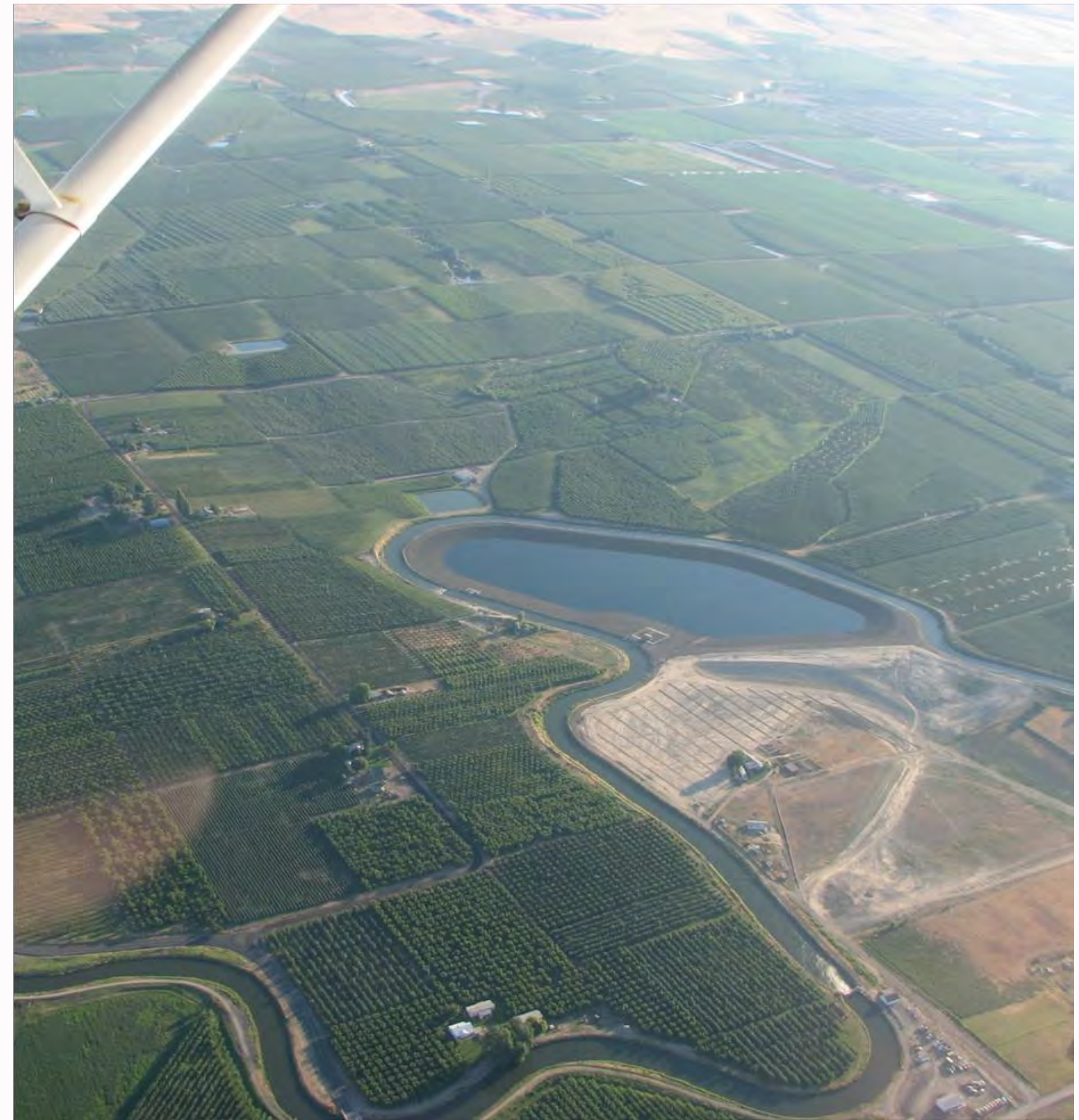
Before Automation



After Automation

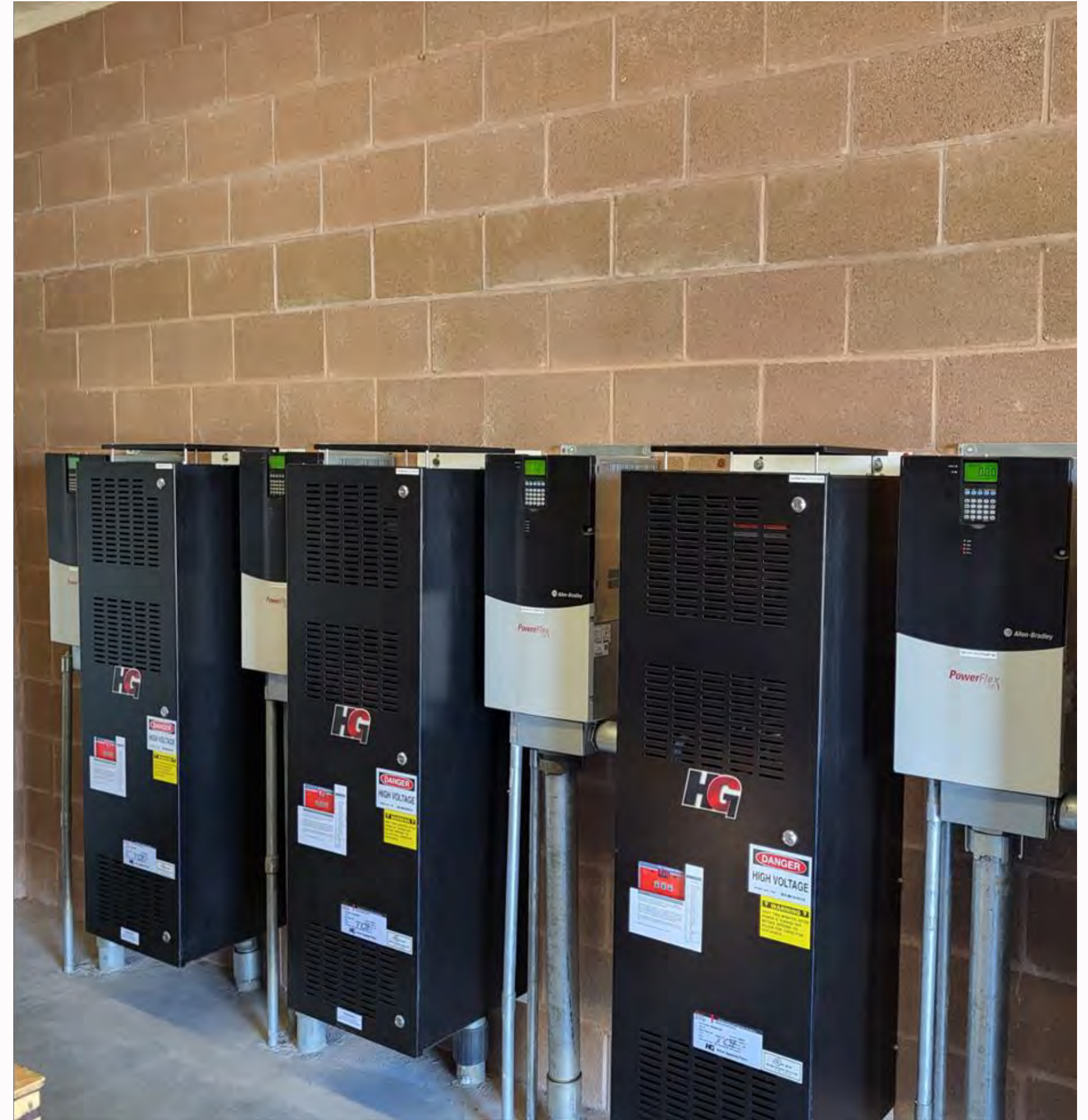
# *Main canal automation*





***Construction of re-regulation reservoirs***

# SCADA and Communication Improvements



# *Enclosed Lateral Improvements Project (ELIPS)*

- Enclosed 125 miles of open canals with pipe (ranging from 4in to 78in)
- Reduced seepage and evaporation losses
- Enabled on-demand water delivery
- Installed 2,300 flow meters for precise usage tracking
- Served over 27,000 acres of farmland
- Enabled farmers to adopt precision irrigation and water-saving practices



HDPE Pipe installation



Enclosing open canals

# Flow Meter installation for precise tracking



Open System Cipolletti Weir  
Blade Measuring Device

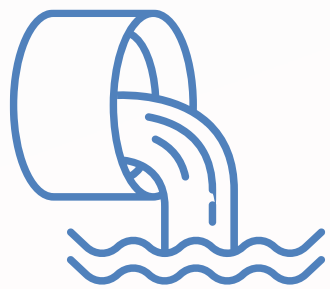


***Lateral Piping projects***

# CONSERVATION IMPROVEMENTS

## **Conservation Results (2003-2025)**

Significant progress has been achieved, with over **38,000 acre-feet of water conserved** to support in-stream flows and fish habitat. This conserved water directly enhances fish habitat and stream ecology. The average federal cost per acre-foot for these conservation efforts is \$2,053.



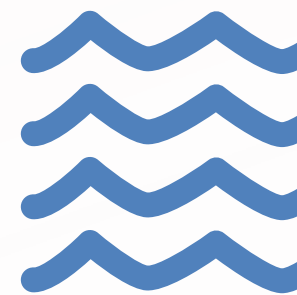
**125**

MILES  
OF PIPE ENCLOSED



**27,832**

ACRES  
ENCLOSED



**38,737 AF**

CONSERVED WATER  
FOR IN-STREAM FLOWS



**\$2,053**

AVERAGE COST PER  
AC-FT

# Looking towards 2026

## 4th Drought Year in a row

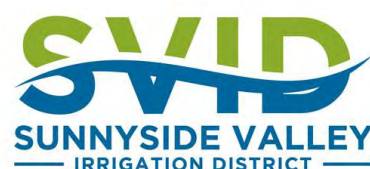
- The Yakima basin has never experienced four consecutive drought years before.

## Continued Conservation

- Lateral Piping projects planned through 2043.
- Lining approximately one mile of open canals each year.





## SVID Leases water for instream pulse flows

- Successful fallowing program in 2025 has been expanded in 2026.
- Working in partnership with Trout Unlimited and the Department of Ecology.
- 2000AF leased in 2025
- 5000AF-8000AF to be leased in 2026





***David Felman***

-  509-837-6980
-  felmand@svid.org
-  [www.svid.org](http://www.svid.org)
-  120 South 11th Street,  
Sunnyside, WA, 98944



**QUESTIONS?**

The YBIP family  
thanks you!

# Wendy Christensen

The following pages are decorative photos capturing Wendy Christensen and her years of service to this project since she retired last year. They have all been marked as decorative











FISH PASSAGE FACILITY  
GATE CHAMBER







YAKIMA RIVER BASIN INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN  
 TS

supply projects will provide at least 450,000 ac-ft of  
 and fish.

shed and habitat enhancements will:  
 ide ecosystem restoration.

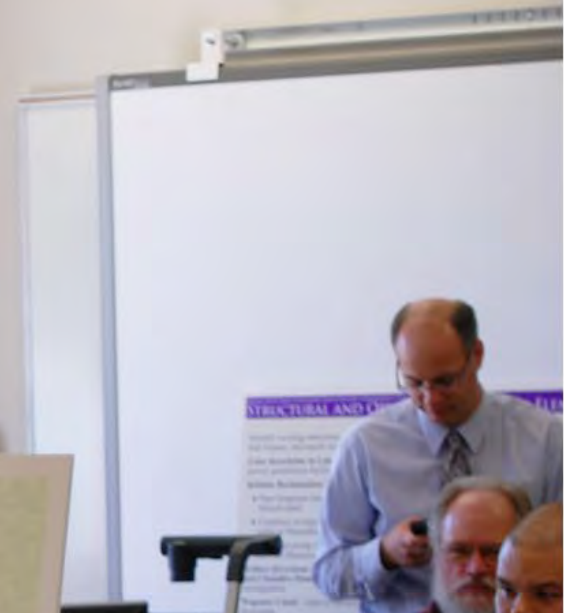
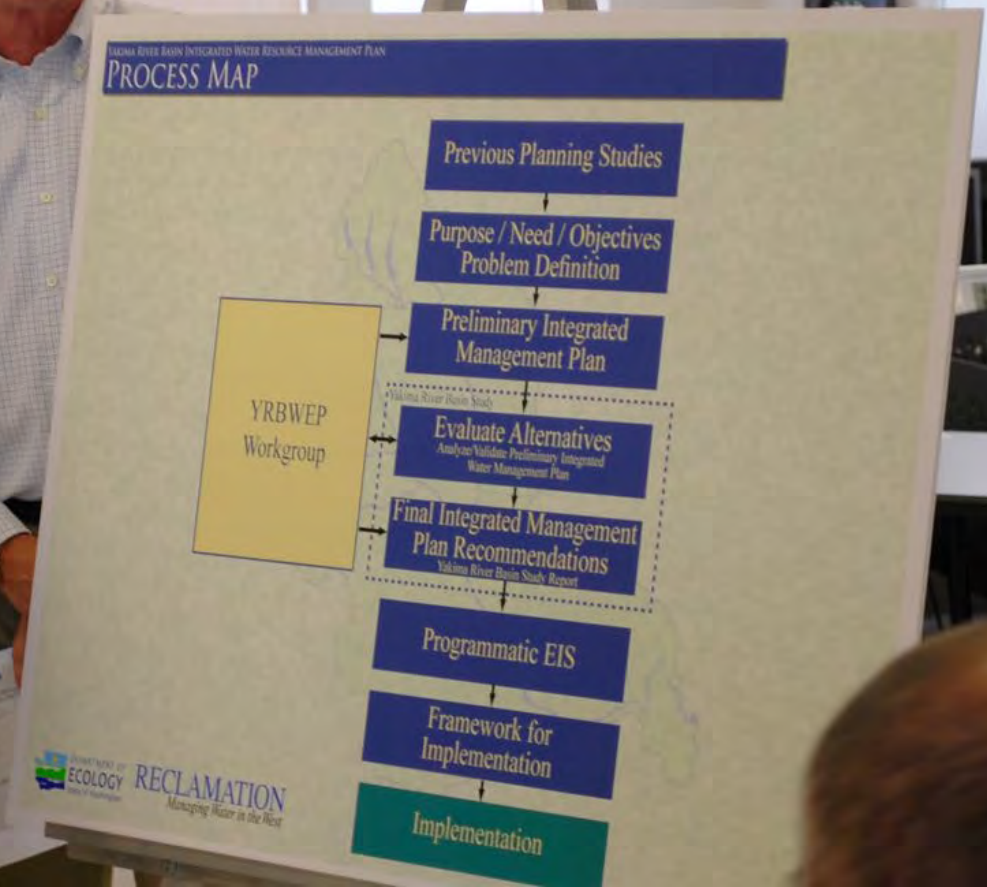
sen habitat that has been closed to fish for a century.  
 v reintroduction of salmon.

se species distribution.

fish to cope with potential future climate change imp  
 creates a sustainable future for the Yakima River Basin



Wendy Christensen  
 Director of Reclamation



Wendy Christensen





Wen

RECLAMATION AGENCY





RECLAMATION



WENDY

stensen







Wendy Christiansen  
Cle Elum Dam Fish Passage Project

Wendy Christiansen is pointing at the infographic while talking to another woman.

LaTrri Lee  
Bureau of Reclamation

LaTrri Lee is wearing glasses and a floral patterned jacket, looking at the infographic.



**BUILDING A FUTURE FOR WATER, WILDLIFE AND WORKING LANDS**  
TARRANT RIVER BASIN INTEGRATED WATER ECONOMY MANAGEMENT PLAN

**Recreational Fish Passage**

- 1. Create fish passage at:
  1. Lake Lewis
  2. Lake Fork
  3. Mustang
  4. Tarrant (downstream)
  5. Tarrant
  6. Tarrant

**Enhanced Water Sustainability**

1. Implement an agricultural water conservation program designed to reduce water use by 10% over a period of 10 years in agricultural areas.
2. Create a fund to promote water use efficiency water conservation programs, such as water audits, rebates, and other water conservation programs.

**Water Conservation**

1. Implement a water conservation program in residential areas to reduce water use by 10% over a period of 10 years.
2. Implement a water conservation program in commercial and industrial areas to reduce water use by 10% over a period of 10 years.
3. Implement a water conservation program in public buildings to reduce water use by 10% over a period of 10 years.

**Water Distribution**

1. Implement a water distribution program to ensure that water is delivered to all areas of the basin.
2. Implement a water distribution program to ensure that water is delivered to all areas of the basin.
3. Implement a water distribution program to ensure that water is delivered to all areas of the basin.

**Structural & Operational Changes**

1. Invest in the South Fork of the Tarrant River to add 15,000 ac-ft of storage capacity.
2. Modify existing transmission lines to increase efficiency.
3. Construct a pipeline that will transport water from the Tarrant River to the Tarrant River to provide more water storage in Lake Tarrant for downstream users.
4. Decrease power generation at Ross Dam and Charles Mansfield to support maintenance of Tarrant River.
5. Make efficiency investments in the Tarrant Basin.

**Water Storage**

1. Build a 100,000 ac-ft of storage capacity in the Tarrant Basin.
2. Upgrade an additional 100,000 ac-ft of water storage capacity in the Tarrant Basin.
3. Construct a new dam at Mustang Reservoir to provide storage of 100,000 ac-ft.
4. Upgrade an additional 100,000 ac-ft of water storage capacity in the Tarrant Basin.























Tom Tebb  
2024 RECIPIENT  
Water Resources  
Leadership Award  
Presented by  
WASHINGTON STATE  
WATER RESOURCES ASSOCIATION





















# CREATING A FUTURE FOR WATER, LANDS AND WORKING LANDS

AN INTEGRATED WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT PLAN

### Habitat/Watershed Protection & Enhancement

1. Protect ~70,000 acres of land by acquiring high elevation portions of the watershed and forest and shrub steppe habitat.

Evaluate potential wilderness and wild and scenic river designations to protect streams and riparian habitat.

Implement habitat enhancement projects to address reach-level restoration priorities and access to key tributaries.

### Market Reallocation

Employ a water market and/or a water bank to improve water supply in the Yakima River basin. Market reallocation would be conducted in two phases:

The near-term phase would continue existing water marketing and banking programs in the basin, and take additional steps to reduce barriers to water transfers.

The long-term program would focus on facilitating water transfers between irrigation districts to allow an irrigation district to acquire land within the district and lease water rights for that land outside the district.

Market Reallocation Conducted Basin-Wide

GW S...

  
**van López**  
Bureau of Reclamation

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Managing Water for the West



