



# Fact Sheet

HABITAT CONSERVATION – PUBLIC NOTICE

February 2011

## Proposal to purchase land along the Methow River would protect fish habitat in Okanogan County

**Location:** Winthrop, Okanogan County, Wash.

**Acres:** 1

**Partners:** The Confederated Tribes and Bands of the Yakama Nation and the Methow Conservancy

**Purpose:** The Bonneville Power Administration is proposing to fund the purchase of land in the Methow River watershed in north-central Washington to protect fish habitat. This property was chosen to ensure the ongoing success of existing riparian protection projects in the Cedarosa area. The Methow Conservancy already has conservation easements on 20 nearby properties. The Methow River watershed is important for fish conservation because it supports populations of Upper Columbia spring chinook salmon, Upper Columbia steelhead, and Columbia River bull trout, which are all listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act. The habitat protected by this project would also support other species of native fish and wildlife.

Funding this acquisition fulfills commitments in the historic 2008 Columbia Basin Fish Accords. They build on NOAA Fisheries' plans for recovering salmon and steelhead runs listed under the ESA and on the Northwest Power and Conservation Council's Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program. The purchase is expected to be finalized in March 2011.

**Type of action:** BPA would work with the Yakama Nation to fund the Methow Conservancy's acquisition of the parcel. When the transaction is complete, the Methow

Conservancy will own and manage the land. A conservation easement will be placed on the property to permanently protect the land for conservation values. BPA would have rights of enforcement to the easement.

**Land management:** The Methow Conservancy will lead the development of a baseline assessment and management plan to guide the protection of the land and enhancement of the riparian habitat for fish. The management plan will be updated periodically to account for changes on the property and consider the best available science.

### For more information

**BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION:**

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**CONFEDERATED TRIBES AND BANDS OF THE YAKAMA NATION:**

Brandon Rogers, tribal biologist, 509-949-4109, [b.rogers@methownet.com](mailto:b.rogers@methownet.com)

**THE METHOW CONSERVANCY:**

Jeanne White, conservation project manager, 1-509-996-2870, [jeanne@methowconservancy.org](mailto:jeanne@methowconservancy.org)

### BPA Fish and Wildlife Program

BPA's fish and wildlife program protects and preserves valuable fish and wildlife habitat throughout the Northwest. Since its inception in 1980, the program has set aside more than 550,000 acres of land benefiting hundreds of species. The program protects habitat from development either through outright purchase of land or by purchasing conservation easements on privately owned property. BPA works in partnership with conservation groups, local tribes and state fish and wildlife management agencies.







# Cedarosa Phase I Completion

Okanogan County, Washington



## Cedarosa Phase I completion (.95 Acres) McLeod Mountain Quadrangle

-  Subject Property
-  Roads
-  Waterbody
-  Rivers and Streams

0 250 500 1,000  
Feet

