

# Upper Columbia

January, 2011

## Introduction

The Wildlife Crediting Forum (**Forum**) was chartered in late 2009 by the Northwest Power and Conservation Council (**NPCC**) to provide input on the Council’s Wildlife Crediting Program (**WCP**). NPCC chartered the Forum to provide advice on the quantifying and accounting system (informally known as the **Ledger**) for the wildlife habitat mitigation credits associated with the construction and inundation impacts of the Federal Columbia River Power System (**FCRPS**) within the Columbia River Basin (**Basin**). The database that currently houses the Ledger is called **Pisces**. The WCP was initiated in 1981, and has been modified from time to time (most recently in 2009) by NPCC in updating the overarching Columbia River Basin Fish and Wildlife Program (**Program**).

The activities of the Forum are documented in a **Forum Summary Report** that is currently in review draft. As requested at the December 2, 2010 meeting of the Forum, four separate sub-regional (see the table below for sub-regions) analyses have been performed to understand the implication of various crediting choices and decisions. These four supplemental analyses reflect the heading structure of the overall Summary Report, but provide more detail to help review each sub-region’s remaining issues with respect to the WCP. *Note: The ratings in the “Level of Agreement” table below were made in consultation with NPCC staff. Although reviewed in draft form by the Forum on December 2, 2010, these ratings have not been concurred in by the Forum.*

## Level of Agreement on Issues by Sub-Region

	A. Federal Lands	B. Fish Projects	C. HEP Issues	D. Loss Assessment	I. Ratios	J. Facility Assignment	K. O&M	L. Inundation Gains	M. Pre-Act Mitigation
<b>Lower Four and Lower Snake</b>	High	Low	Low	High	Low	Low	Low	Low	Low
<b>Upper Columbia</b>	High	Medium	High	High	Low	High	Low	Medium	High
<b>Upper Snake</b>	Low	High	Medium	Low	Low	Low	Low	Medium	High
<b>Northern Idaho</b>	High	High	High	High	High	High	Low	High	High

The data used here is an updated version of the Ledger of wildlife mitigation data in Pisces and in the Council’s Program.

**A. Federal Lands**

There are no remaining issues on the use of federal lands for wildlife mitigation projects in this sub-region.

**B. Credits for Fish Mitigation**

Of the 24 fish projects reviewed by Forum, 5 are within this sub-region. The projects are all in tier 2, meaning there are several issues that must be reviewed before these can be included in the Ledger.

**Table B-1: Candidate Fish Projects for Wildlife Credits**

Parcel Name	Proponent	Sub-Basin	Acres	Tier
Colville Fish Habitat Projects	Colville Tribes	Okonogan	176	2
Cottonwood Farms / Witte Place	NFWF, Methow Conservancy	Methow	54	2
Hancock Springs	NFWF, Methow Conservancy	Methow	122	2
Heath	NFWF, Methow Conservancy	Methow	140	2
Mid-Methow / Lehman	NFWF, Methow Conservancy	Methow	93	2

These projects are expected to meet the following requirements before inclusion in the Ledger:

- Specific wildlife management plans for the project area need to be completed, approved and implemented.
- Long-term operations and maintenance funding for wildlife species/habitats must be in place and “adequate”.
- Appropriate permanent land protections (easements) should be applied, in perpetuity and with adequate protection language.
- The protected wildlife species/populations/habitats should be “priority” and so defined by in-place Federal, state or tribal management or sub-basin plans.

**C. HEP Application Variations**

The variation of HEP models at facilities and at mitigation projects sites is not considered a challenge aside from some individual cases. In general the loss assessment and projects in this sub-region have applied HEP more uniformly when compared with other sub-regions in the Basin.

**Table C-1: Acres and HU by Manager**

Manager	Acres	Current HU	Protected HU	Enhancement HU
Colville Confederated Tribes	57,193	35,226	23,138	0
Spokane Tribe	4,233	4,487	4,476	0
USFWS	906	421	421	0
WDFW	141,345	83,329	61,595	15,720
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>203,677</b>	<b>123,463</b>	<b>89,630</b>	<b>15,720</b>

### I. Ratio Application

The application of any ratios in the WCP are not agreed on by all Forum members, but are documented in the Forum Summary Report. Table I-1 below documents how projects in this sub-region break out based on the year they were booked to the Ledger.

**Table I-1: Dates of Project Credits**

Fiscal Years	Parcel Current HU	Percent of Total
1978-2001	77,150	62.5%
2001-Present	46,301	37.5%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>123,463</b>	<b>100%</b>

### J. Facility Assignment

Assignment of habitat units to facilities is most clear for this sub-region. Please note that in Table J-1, a number of projects are combined together and it is not clear how to separate out the portion of HU's assigned. This creates composite projects with multiple facilities listed.

**Table J-1: Habitat Unit Assignment to Facilities**

Projects	Current HU	Protected HU	Enhanced HU
Chief Joseph	3,941	3,941	0
Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee	30,770	26,563	1,637
Chief Joseph, John Day WA, McNary WA	1,193	776	417
Grand Coulee	87,559	58,350	13,666
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>123,463</b>	<b>89,630</b>	<b>15,720</b>

**Table J-2: Loss Assessment by Facilities**

Facility	All Habitat Units	Habitat Units (Exc. Gains)
Chief Joseph	-7,393	-8,833
Grand Coulee	-111,515	-111,515
<b>Total</b>	<b>-118,908</b>	<b>-120,348</b>

**L. Inundation Gains**

One species is included in the adopted 2009 *Program Table C-4* for this sub-region. It is:

**Table L-1: Inundation Gains by Species**

<b>Species</b>	<b>HU</b>
Lesser Scaup	1,440
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,440</b>

**M. Pre-Act Mitigation**

Pre-Act mitigation does not apply to this sub-region.

**Parcel Accounting Concerns**

The following Wildlife Management Areas (WMA) include parcels that are recorded in Pisces and have a minimum HU not being summed at the WMA level. In some cases the parcel minimum HU is greater than the HEP survey results, in other cases they are simply not be summed in the Pisces database. It appears these should be included in the total, but presently Pisces and the Ledger exclude them.

This data has not been included in the Forum Summary Report yet, but was presented at the December 2010 meeting. These parcels need to be reviewed with managers to understand if these minimum HU's need to be added into the Ledger.

**Table 1: WMA's with Current HU and Minimum HU Discrepancies**

<b>WMA</b>	<b>HU Difference</b>
Hellgate Winter Range	11,950
McCoy Lake	11
Omak Lake MA	138
Sage Flat - WDFW	2,250
Wenas - WDFW	3
West Foster Creek/Dezelle Lake	470
<b>Total</b>	<b>14,822</b>

## Parcel Data for the Sub-Region

WMA	Parcel Name	Proponent	Current HU	Protected HU	Enhancement HU	Min HU	Purchase Type	Purchase FY	Acreage	Mitigated Dams
Asotin Creek - BPA	Schlee (BPA portion)	WDFW	7,642	7,642	0	7,000	Fee Title	2004	8,459	Grand Coulee
Asotin Creek - WDFW	Bickford	WDFW	670	349	321		No purchase (enhancement only)	2006	1,646	Grand Coulee
Asotin Creek - WDFW	Schlee (WDFW portion)	WDFW	496	259	237	600	Fee Title	2004	1,218	Grand Coulee
Blue Creek Winter Range	Allotment 322	Spokane Tribe	140	140	0		Fee Title	1991	78	Grand Coulee
Blue Creek Winter Range	Blue Creek (Land Swap)	Spokane Tribe	1,121	1,121	0		Exchange	1997	701	Grand Coulee
Blue Creek Winter Range	Blue Creek (Tribal Contribution)	Spokane Tribe	60	60	0		None/unknown	1999	36	Grand Coulee
Cottonwood	Allotment 1074-Hill	Spokane Tribe	234	234	0	56	Fee Title	2006	120	Grand Coulee
Cottonwood	Allotment 1074-Mercer	Spokane Tribe	119	119	0	55	Fee Title	2006	100	Grand Coulee
Cottonwood	Allotment 13-B	Spokane Tribe	31	31	0	21	Fee Title	2006	60	Grand Coulee
Cottonwood	Allotment 314	Spokane Tribe	60	60	0	36	Fee Title	2006	80	Grand Coulee
Cottonwood	Allotment 599	Spokane Tribe	89	89	0	40	Fee Title	2006	100	Grand Coulee
Desert - WDFW	Desert - WDFW	WDFW	1,193	776	417	0	No purchase (enhancement only)	2006	1,000	Chief Joseph, John Day WA, McNary WA
Eder	Eder	WDFW	3,857	3,857	0	3,857	Fee Title	2007	3,337	Chief Joseph
Fox Creek	Kieffer	Spokane Tribe	38	38	0		Fee Title	1997	40	Grand Coulee
Fox Creek	Smith	Spokane Tribe	141	141	0		Fee Title	1998	160	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Agency Butte (Colville Tribal Land)	Colville Confederated Tribes	948	948	0		No purchase (enhancement only)	1999	2,388	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Berg	Colville Confederated Tribes	3,564	3,564	0		Easement	1995	5,672	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Bill Kuenhe	Colville Confederated Tribes	4,089	4,089	0		Fee Title	1993	4,805	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Colville Allotments	Colville Confederated Tribes	22			22	No purchase (enhancement only)	2000	80	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Covington	Colville Confederated Tribes	69	52	0	69	Fee Title	2000	129	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Friedlander	Colville Confederated Tribes	12	12	0		Fee Title		60	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Graves	Colville Confederated Tribes	821	821	0		Fee Title	2000	2,730	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Henry Kuehne	Colville Confederated Tribes	3,795	3,795	0		Fee Title	1994	4,800	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Hinman	Colville Confederated Tribes	358	358	0		Fee Title	1998	770	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Jacobson	Colville Confederated Tribes	1,313			1,313	Fee Title	2007	1,457	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee

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WMA	Parcel Name	Proponent	Current HU	Protected HU	Enhancement HU	Min HU	Purchase Type	Purchase FY	Acreage	Mitigated Dams
Hellgate Winter Range	Nespelem Bend	Colville Confederated Tribes	263	263	0		Fee Title	1997	516	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Rattlesnake	Colville Confederated Tribes	7,421	7,421	0	7,421	Fee Title	2006	10,293	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Redford Canyon	Colville Confederated Tribes	118	118	0		Fee Title	1997	215	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Redthunder	Colville Confederated Tribes	1,257			1,257	Easement	2007	1,355	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Sand Hills	Colville Confederated Tribes	613	613	0		Fee Title	1995	1,400	Grand Coulee
Hellgate Winter Range	Tumwater (Joy)	Colville Confederated Tribes	9,341			9,341	Easement	2005	18,812	Grand Coulee
Little Pend Oreille NWR	Kaniksu Addition	USFWS	315	315	0	0	Fee Title	2000	706	Grand Coulee
Little Pend Oreille NWR	Weir	USFWS	106	106	0	0	Fee Title	1998	200	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Allotment 401-A	Spokane Tribe	57	57	0		Fee Title	1996	35	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Etue	Spokane Tribe	123	123	0		Fee Title	1999	74	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Gribner Swap	Spokane Tribe	60	60	0	28	Fee Title	2006	80	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Harris	Spokane Tribe	291	291	0		Fee Title	1997	180	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Kenworthy	Spokane Tribe	78	78	0		Fee Title	1998	40	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Lantzy East	Spokane Tribe	88	88	0	33	Fee Title	2004	81	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Lantzy West	Spokane Tribe	38	27	0	38	Fee Title	2004	124	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Parson East	Spokane Tribe	163	163	0	83	Fee Title	2004	201	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Parson West	Spokane Tribe	112	112	0	93	Fee Title	2004	301	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	People	Spokane Tribe	528	528	0		Fee Title	1999	317	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	People (Tribal)	Spokane Tribe	204	204	0		Fee Title	1999	123	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Sampson	Spokane Tribe	238	238	0	188	Fee Title	2004	566	Grand Coulee
McCoy Lake	Yepa	Spokane Tribe	36	36	0	13	Fee Title	2006	35	Grand Coulee
North Omak Lake	Jacobson 1 and 3	Colville Confederated Tribes	1,084	1,084	0	689	Fee Title	2009	1,387	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Omak Lake MA	Brim	Colville Confederated Tribes	138			138	Fee Title	2009	324	Grand Coulee
Sage Flat - BPA	Chester Butte (MJM Ranch)	WDFW	3,144	2,018	1,126		Fee Title	1978	2,206	Grand Coulee
Sage Flat - BPA	Dormaier	WDFW	456	293	163		Fee Title	1978	320	Grand Coulee
Sage Flat - BPA	West Foster (Smith)	WDFW	2,814	1,806	1,008		Fee Title	1978	1,974	Grand Coulee
Sage Flat - WDFW	Pygmy Rabbit CRMP - DNR	WDFW	4,000			4,000	Fee Title	1978	3,500	Grand Coulee
Sage Flat - WDFW	Sagebrush Flat (Douglas County Pygmy Rabbit)	WDFW	146	146	0		None/unknown	1978	240	Grand Coulee
Sage Flat - WDFW	West Foster Creek Expansion	WDFW	4,902	4,902	0	4,000	No purchase (enhancement only)	2005	3,756	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Scotch Creek - BPA	Happy Hill (Brown)	WDFW	33	13	21		Fee Title	1978	61	Grand Coulee

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WMA	Parcel Name	Proponent	Current HU	Protected HU	Enhancement HU	Min HU	Purchase Type	Purchase FY	Acreage	Mitigated Dams
Scotch Creek - BPA	Tunk (Fisher, Crawfish Lake, and A&M Northland)	WDFW	176	67	108		None/unknown	1978	320	Grand Coulee
Scotch Creek - WDFW	Scotch Creek - WDFW	WDFW	6,919	5,282	1,637	0	No purchase (enhancement only)	1996	15,084	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
Swanson Lakes - BPA	Swanson Lakes - BPA	WDFW	17,570	12,031	5,539	12,031	None/unknown	1978	14,840	Grand Coulee
Swanson Lakes - WDFW	Swanson Lakes - WDFW	WDFW	4,602	1,197	3,406	3,108	None/unknown	1978	5,225	Grand Coulee
Tshimikain	Allotment 283-A	Spokane Tribe	55	55	0	20	Fee Title	2006	73	Grand Coulee
Wellpinit Mtn WA	483-B	Spokane Tribe	42	42	0	20	Fee Title	2006	70	Grand Coulee
Wellpinit Mtn WA	A-75	Spokane Tribe	44	44	0	18	None/unknown	2006	70	Grand Coulee
Wellpinit Mtn WA	Allotment 1052	Spokane Tribe	93	93	0	48	Easement	2006	79	Grand Coulee
Wellpinit Mtn WA	Allotment 154	Spokane Tribe	73	73	0	69	Fee Title	2005	149	Grand Coulee
Wellpinit Mtn WA	Allotment 65-C	Spokane Tribe	25	25	0	21	Fee Title	2004	40	Grand Coulee
Wellpinit Mtn WA	Allotment 67-B	Spokane Tribe	89	89	0		Fee Title	1996	80	Grand Coulee
Wellpinit Mtn WA	Allotment 86	Spokane Tribe	17	17	0	12	Fee Title	2006	40	Grand Coulee
Wenas - BPA	Roza Creek	WDFW	1,020	1,020	0	0	Lease	1978	2,111	Grand Coulee
Wenas - BPA	S. Umtanum Ridge	WDFW	2,452	5,181	-2,729	0	Lease	1978	9,962	Grand Coulee
Wenas - BPA	Umtanum Creek	WDFW	5,181	4,552	629	0	Lease	1978	4,326	Grand Coulee
Wenas - WDFW	Roza Creek	WDFW	2,018	1,306	712	0	No purchase (enhancement only)	1978	10,738	Grand Coulee
Wenas - WDFW	S. Umtanum Ridge	WDFW	4,057	1,535	1,521	0	No purchase (enhancement only)	1978	25,224	Grand Coulee
Wenas - WDFW	Umtanum Creek	WDFW	4,527	2,923	1,604	0	No purchase (enhancement only)	1978	21,659	Grand Coulee
West Foster Creek/Dezelle Lake	Dezelle Lake	WDFW	665			665	Fee Title	2004	469	Grand Coulee
West Foster Creek/Dezelle Lake	JoJaCo - Smith 2	WDFW	3,466	3,466	0	3,466	Fee Title	2004	2,638	Chief Joseph, Grand Coulee
West Foster Creek/Dezelle Lake	McClain Lake	WDFW	667	667	0	665	Fee Title	2004	469	Grand Coulee
West Foster Creek/Dezelle Lake	North Bridgeport	WDFW	349			349	Fee Title	2004	321	Grand Coulee
West Foster Creek/Dezelle Lake	SBF Middle	WDFW	223	223	0	223	Fee Title	2004	162	Grand Coulee
Western Pond Turtle	Headstart Program	WDFW	84	84	0	80	No purchase (enhancement only)	2001	80	Chief Joseph