

# People, Farms, and Fish

YAKIMA RIVER BASIN INTEGRATED PLAN

## Bumping Lake Reservoir Enlargement

Bumping Lake Dam, located on the Bumping River, 40 miles northwest of Yakima, was constructed in 1910 and created a reservoir with a capacity of 33,700 acre-feet.

The Bumping Lake Reservoir Enlargement element of the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan (Integrated Plan) includes construction of a new dam and fish passage facilities. The reservoir would be enlarged to a total active capacity of approximately 190,000 acre feet.

Along with conservation, water marketing and banking, fish passage at five other Yakima Basin dams, storage at Wymer, watershed lands protection, Kachess/Keechelus integrated storage, habitat enhancement, and various operational changes, Bumping Lake Reservoir enlargement is one of sixteen Integrated Plan projects for which Ecology is requesting early action funding.



Photo by Andy Sawyer, Yakima Herald-Republic

The additional storage created by this project is a critical component for meeting the instream habitat and water supply goals of the Integrated Plan. The operations of Bumping Lake and Rimrock Reservoirs would be coordinated with reservoirs in the upper Yakima River Basin to assist in meeting both instream flow and water supply needs.

The enlarged reservoir would inundate an additional 1,900 acres of land. The land is located within the Okanogan-Wenatchee National Forest, but outside William O. Douglas Wilderness and roadless areas.

As much as 70,000 acres of currently unprotected forest and shrub steppe lands will be protected as part of the watershed and habitat protection and enhancement element of the Integrated Plan. The Integrated Plan's Final Programmatic Environmental Impact statement (2012 FPEIS) also proposes expansion of the William O. Douglas Wilderness near Bumping Lake Reservoir.

The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation issued environmental impact statements for enlarging Bumping Lake Reservoir by 450,000 ac-ft in 1979 and 2008. Expansion was not pursued because of habitat concerns, proximity to the William O. Douglas Wilderness, and the problem of filling such a large reservoir. The 2012 FPEIS reduces total post-expansion capacity by nearly 60% to 190,000 ac-ft, thereby shrinking the project's footprint and alleviating the previous concerns.

Early action funding for the project will be used to initiate further environmental review, geological investigation, and feasibility-level design work. As was the case throughout the 2012 FPEIS and the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project (YRBWEP) workgroup's Implementation Plan development processes, public input will be vigorously sought as these reviews are conducted.

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## Additional Resources:

### Websites Providing Information About the Integrated Plan

- Yakima Basin Conservation Campaign (National Wildlife Federation, American Rivers, The Wilderness Society and Trout Unlimited): <http://www.yakimaforever.org/>
- Washington Trails Association: <http://www.wta.org/signpost/yakima-basin-integrated-plan>
- Yakima Basin Fish and Wildlife Recovery Board: <http://www.ybfwrp.org/yakima-basin-integrated-plan/>
- YRBWEP Implementation Committee: [http://yakimabasinplan.org/about-the-integrated-plan\\_296.html](http://yakimabasinplan.org/about-the-integrated-plan_296.html)
- Ecology: <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/cwp/YBIP.html>
- US Bureau of Reclamation: <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/yrbwep/2011integratedplan/index.html>

### Documents:

- Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Plan Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement: <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/yrbwep/reports/FPEIS/fpeis.pdf>
- Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan Framework for Implementation Report: <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/yrbwep/2011integratedplan/plan/framework.pdf>
- Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan Four Accounts Analysis: <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/yrbwep/reports/fouraccounts.pdf>
- Technical Memorandum: Preliminary Cost Allocation for the Proposed Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan: <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/yrbwep/2011integratedplan/plan/costallo.pdf>

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**RECLAMATION**  
*Managing Water in the West*



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**ECOLOGY**  
State of Washington