

**FINAL ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT STATEMENT
FOR THE
CLE ELUM POOL RAISE PROJECT, KITTITAS COUNTY, WASHINGTON**

The Bureau of Reclamation and Washington State Department of Ecology have completed the Final Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) for the Cle Elum Pool Raise Project (CEPR), which is being released in anticipation of its formal filing with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) on May 15, 2015. The CEPR is a component of the Yakima River Basin Integrated Water Resource Management Plan (Integrated Plan).

The Final EIS was prepared in accordance with the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA) and the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The Final EIS evaluates four alternatives to increase the capacity of the reservoir by modifying the radial gates, providing shoreline protection and environmental mitigation, in addition to the No Action Alternative. Public comments received on the Draft EIS are responded to in the Final EIS.

Reclamation and Ecology have identified Alternative 3—Additional Storage Capacity for Instream Flow with Hybrid Shoreline Protection—as the Preferred Alternative. Under Alternative 3, Reclamation would improve instream flows in the lower Cle Elum River and in downstream reaches of the Yakima River. This use of water complies with the Cle Elum Pool Raise Project congressional authorization in the Yavapai-Prescott Indian Tribe Water Rights Settlement Act of 1994 (Public Law 103-434) Sections 1205 and 1206, Title XII, Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project (108 Stat. 4550 USC), commonly referred to as YRBWEP Phase II. Alternative 3 would also employ a hybrid shoreline protection strategy.

The NEPA process concludes with a Record of Decision (ROD) which may be issued by Reclamation 30 days after the Final EIS is published by EPA in the Federal Register. The ROD documents Reclamation's decision on the proposed action and describes the rationale used in making the decision.

Availability of the Final EIS:

The Final EIS and other information regarding the Cle Elum Pool Raise Project can be accessed online on the Bureau of Reclamation's website at the following link:

<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/eis/cleelumraise/index.html>

More information regarding the Integrated Plan can be found at:

<http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/yrbwep/2011integratedplan/index.html>

To request a hard copy or compact disc of the Final EIS, or an executive summary of the Final EIS, contact:

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(TTY users may dial 711 to obtain a toll-free TTY relay)