

Fact Sheet

Project Title

Icicle Creek Water Resource Management Strategy (Icicle Strategy)

Brief Description of Proposal

Chelan County (County) and the Washington State Department of Ecology (Ecology) prepared this Final Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) to evaluate the Icicle Strategy alternatives designed to meet Guiding Principles (improve instream flows, improve the sustainability of Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery, protect tribal and non-tribal fish harvest, improve domestic supply, improve agricultural reliability, enhance Icicle Creek habitat, and comply with State and Federal Law, including the Wilderness Acts) within the Icicle Creek Subbasin, Chelan County, Washington. This Final PEIS was prepared in compliance with the Washington State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). The County and Ecology are acting as co-lead agencies.

The SEPA non-project action is the adoption of a program called the Icicle Strategy. The strategy is a program of integrated, long-term, water resource management and habitat restoration actions. The PEIS evaluates how combinations of actions could function together to meet the Icicle Creek Guiding Principles. The PEIS includes five action alternatives, which are characterized by different combinations of water management and habitat restoration elements that cumulatively would meet all of the Guiding Principles. In addition, a No-action Alternative is included, which is intended to represent the most-likely water supply future that is expected in the absence of implementing an action alternative. Under the No-action Alternative, actions to improve instream and out-of-stream water supplies would continue to a lesser extent or for a different beneficiary than in the action alternatives. Additionally, implementation would be conducted by individual project proponents rather than as part of an integrated management strategy, on unknown timelines, and in a piecemeal fashion.

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Permits, Licenses, and Approvals Required

Implementation of the Icicle Strategy would require compliance with regulations and plans at federal, state, and local levels. To implement the action alternatives or their elements, the lead agencies and project proponents would need to comply with applicable laws, regulations, and Executive Orders. This proposal is a non-project action, and the specific details of some projects that would be pursued under the Icicle Strategy are not yet known, so it is not possible to present a complete list of permits, licenses, and approvals that could be required for the components of the strategy. However, potential requirements identified to date include the following:

- State Environmental Policy Act
- National Environmental Policy Act
- Clean Water Act Section 404
- USFS Special Use Permit
- USFS Minimum Tools Analysis
- Endangered Species Act
- Magnuson-Stevens Fishery Conservation and Management Act
- National Historic Preservation Act
- Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act
- FEMA Flood Rise Analysis
- CWA Section 401 Water Quality Certification
- FCC Licensing
- Ecology Dam Construction Permit/Review
- Ecology Water Right Permit
- Ecology Sand and Gravel Permit
- Governor's Executive Order 05-05, Archeology and Cultural Resources
- WDNR Burn Permit
- WDFW Hydraulic Project Permit Approval
- WDNR Aquatic Use Authorization
- Ecology NPDES Construction Stormwater Permit
- EPA NPDES Discharge Permit for Operations
- Chelan County Shoreline Substantial Development Permit/Conditional Use Permit
- Chelan County Fill and Grade Permit
- Chelan County Building Permit

Authors and Contributors

A list of the individuals from the County, Ecology and consulting firms who participated in the EIS evaluation is provided in Chapter 7.

Date of Draft Environmental Impact Statement Issuance

May 31, 2018

Comment Deadline for Draft Environmental Impact Statement

July 30, 2018

Public Hearing

The co-leads conducted a public hearing to receive comments on the DPEIS in combination with an informational open house. The public hearing and open house were held at Leavenworth Festhalle, 1001 Front Street, Leavenworth, WA on June 27, 2018 from 4pm to 8pm.

Date of Final Environmental Impact Statement

January 3, 2019

Timing of Additional Environmental Review

The purpose of this Programmatic Environmental Impact Statement (PEIS) is to evaluate the potential environmental impacts of implementing a comprehensive water resource management plan in the Icicle Creek Subbasin, with the Guiding Principles as the water management objectives. In accordance with State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), the proposal includes preparation of a PEIS (this document) to identify potential environmental impacts, mitigation strategies, and a preferred alternative.

The alternatives identified as potentially meeting the Guiding Principles are generally not at a project-level environmental review because many projects are still in the planning phase. In accordance with Chapter 197-11-704 WAC, this PEIS evaluates non-project actions such as policies, plans, and programs at a programmatic level. However, where project level information is available, the co-lead agencies for this PEIS have attempted to include it. This does not obviate the need for individual actions that are carried forward requiring specific project-level environmental review. Notably, the PEIS will serve as the basis for future project-level environmental review that may be required and NEPA review that would be required for projects that receive federal funding or permitting.

Following the issuance of this final PEIS document some projects and actions could be advanced and ready for additional environmental review or project implementation in Spring 2019, while others may not advance to implementation for several years.

Document Availability

The Final PEIS for the Icicle Strategy is available online:

<https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/SummaryPages/1812016.html>

And

<http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/natural-resources/pages/icicle-work-group?parent=Planning>

Print copies or e-copies of the document may be obtained at the following locations:

Washington State Department of Ecology
Central Regional Office
1250 West Alder Street,
Union Gap, WA 98903-0009

Or

Chelan County Natural Resource Department
411 Washington Street, Suite 201,
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Or by contacting Chelan County's Water Resource Manager, Mary Jo Sanborn, at (509) 667-6532 or maryjo.sanborn@co.chelan.wa.us.

Print copies of the Final EIS may require payment of a fee (copying costs plus allowed mailing cost).

To ask about the availability of this document in a format for the visually impaired, call the Office of Columbia River at 509-454-4241. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.

Location of Background Materials

Background materials on the Icicle Strategy are available online at: <http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/natural-resources/pages/icicle-work-group?parent=Planning>