# Wild and Scenic Rivers Eligibility Assessment

**Wenatchee National Forest** 

# APPENDIX E

# ASSESSMENT OF RIVERS AS TO THEIR ELIGIBILITY AND SUITABILITY FOR DESIGNATION UNDER THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT

# I. <u>INTRODUCTION</u>

The Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, as amended, was enacted by Congress to provide Federal protection for selected free-flowing rivers within the United States. During the initial preparation of the Draft Environmental Impact Statement (DEIS) and The Proposed Land and Resource Management Plan for the Wenatchee National Forest, a study of certain rivers on the Forest was undertaken to determine their potential eligibility and suitability for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. At that time, the study was confined, with the exception of the Entiat drainage, to those rivers listed on the Nationwide Rivers Inventory, originally published by the Department of Interior in 1980, and updated in 1982. This inventory was developed to identify rivers which would, by virtue of their exceptional natural, cultural, scenic or recreation resources, qualify for further consideration for inclusion in the National Wild and Scenic River System. The Wenatchee, White and Chiwawa Rivers, and Icicle Creek were identified in the inventory as meeting these criteria. The initial Forest planning effort also included the Entiat River and two tributaries, in response to public interest expressed at that time.

As a result of both in-Service review and the analysis of comments received from the public during the comment period for the DEIS, the Forest Supervisor assigned an Interdisciplinary (ID) Team the task of making a reassessment of eligibility for all rivers on the Wenatchee National Forest. An ID Team was also assigned the task of completing a suitability analysis for the resulting eligible rivers. The results of these studies were published in 1988 as a supplement to and correction of the original Appendix E that was distributed with the Wenatchee National Forest DEIS.

The present Appendix E is a modification and expansion of the 1988 Supplement. Based on additional study, new information, and public response to the Supplement, adjustments have been made in the data presented, including changes in certain river segment classifications. One notable modification is in the status of the Waptus River, on the Cle Elum Ranger District, which was reexamined and found to be eligible and suitable for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System.

# II. ELIGIBILITY PROCESS

Rivers identified for evaluation were included in the eligibility study if they met any of the following criteria:

- 1. They were identified in the <u>Nationwide Rivers Inventory</u> (NRI), published by the National Park Service in 1982.
- 2. They were identified by the public, and appeared to meet the criteria outlined in the joint Department of Agriculture/Department of Interior Final Guidelines for Eligibility, Classification and Management of River Areas.
- 3. They were identified through in-Service study, had characteristics similar to the rivers identified in the NRI, and appeared to meet the criteria of the joint agency guidelines.

The list of rivers meeting the above criteria and a notation as to how they were identified are shown in Table E-1 below.

# TABLE E-1 RIVERS CONSIDERED FOR ELIGIBILITY

RIVER	HOW IDENTIFIED
American	Public Interest
Bumping	Public Interest
Chiwawa	Nationwide Rivers Inventory
Cle Elum	Public Interest
Cooper	Forest Inventory
Entiat	Public Interest
Icicle Creek	Nationwide Rivers Inventory
Kachess	Forest Inventory
Little Naches	Public Interest
Little Wenatchee	Public Interest
Mad	Public Interest
Naches	Public Interest
Napeequa	Forest Inventory
North Fork Entlat	Public Interest
Rattiesnake Creek	Public Interest
Teanaway	Public Interest
Tieton	Public Interest
Waptus	Forest Inventory
Wenatchee	Nationwide Rivers Inventory
White	Nationwide Rivers Inventory

Once the list was developed, each river was evaluated to determine its eligibility. In order to be eligible a river must meet both of the following criteria:

- a. The river is free-flowing.
- b. The river or river segment possesses scenic, recreational, geological, fish, wildlife, historical, cultural or ecological values which are judged to be outstandingly remarkable.

The determination of whether a river area contains "outstandingly remarkable" values is a professional judgement. The interdisciplinary evaluation team was made up of specialists that included a Landscape Architect, Recreation Management Specialist(s), Geologist, Fisheries Biologist, Wıldlife Biologist, Archaeologist, and individuals with backgrounds in ecology. The fourteen member team included representatives who were considered the most qualified river experts on each Ranger District.

ID team specialists consulted with specialists from other areas, both within the Forest Service and from various Federal, State, and private organizations, in order to develop preliminary evaluations of the "outstandingly remarkable" criteria. In addition to the ID team's professional judgement, information and ratings from other sources were used, including the <u>Nationwide Rivers Inventory</u>, <u>River Recreation in Washington</u>: An Initial Inventory and Assessment, the <u>Pacific Northwest Rivers Study-Washington</u>, and other similar assessments.

During this phase of the eligibility determination, the ID team looked at both the entire river as well as individual segments, with the assumption that segments might be eligible for classification even if the entire river did not meet the free-flowing criteria.

A separate ID team conducted a suitability determination on all eligible rivers resulting from this effort. The results of the suitability determination is contained later in this Appendix.

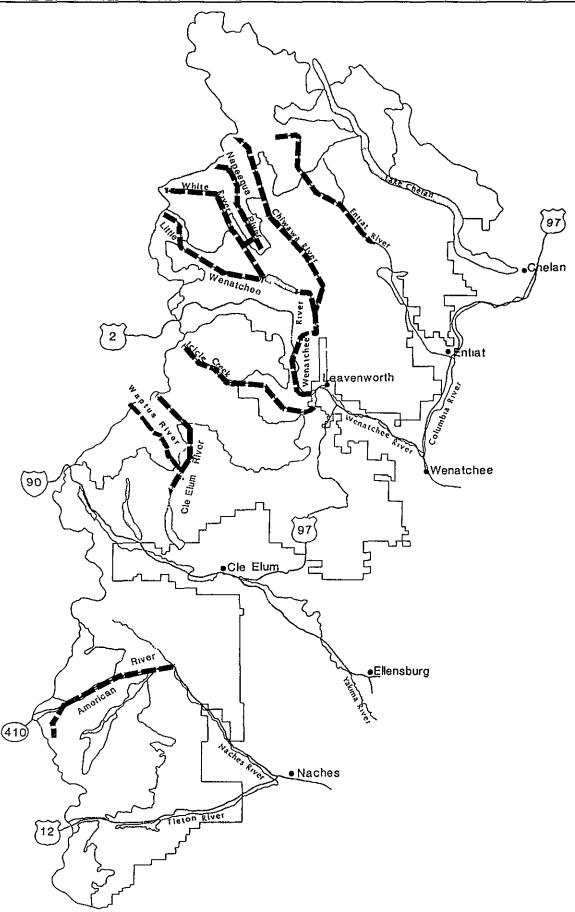
Thirteen rivers in addition to those listed above were also evaluated for potential eligibility as a result of public response to the 1988 Supplement. However, none were found to meet the eligibility criteria. The results of these findings are documented in the analysis file of the Forest Plan, and are further described in the Response to the Public Comments in Appendix K of the FEIS.

The Yakima River was not included in the eligibility determination due to the fact that National Forest lands make up less than one percent of the ownership in the drainage. However, the Yakima is listed as one of 26 rivers presently under consideration as part of the Washington State Scenic River Assessment program.

# A. ELIGIBLE RIVERS

This section describes the results of the analysis of those rivers or river segments determined to be eligible for designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. The ID Team found, using the eligibility process described above, that at least segments of all of the rivers listed below are eligible for designation, and a suitability study was conducted for each. General setting, eligibility values and conclusions are discussed by Ranger District, for each river.

# ELIGIBLE RIVERS UNDER THE WILD AND SCENIC RIVERS ACT



E-4

# **CLE ELUM RANGER DISTRICT**

#### **CLE ELUM RIVER**

The Cle Elum River corridor, from the headwaters to the head of the Lake Cle Elum Reservoir, is being considered for designation as a potential Wild and Scenic River. Below this point, the river has been heavily modified by the Lake Cle Elum Dam, and as a consequence, does not meet the eligibility criteria. The total length of the portion of the corridor under study is 24.5 miles, with 45% of this being in private ownership. The upper four miles are located entirely within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	13,5	4,320
Private	11,0	3,520
Total	24.5	7,840

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Cle Elum River originates east of the Cascade Crest in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. The topography varies from a broad, glaciated, U-shaped valley in the upper reaches, to a predominantly rugged, steep-walled valley midsection, to somewhat rolling, open terrain in the lower reaches. Vegetation is a mixed conifer timber type with frequent meadow openings, including some extensive wetlands. The river flows through Little Hyas, Hyas and Tucquala Lakes, three natural bodies of water within the corridor.

A significant portion of the lower Cle Elum River was heavily modified by the construction of the Lake Cle Elum Dam in 1934. Because of this, neither the impounded area nor the segment below the dam were considered eligible for designation.

A potential water deflection development is under study near the mouth of the Cooper River. The development would consist of a number of large boulders, taken from a nearby rock source, placed in chevron and linear formations within the Cooper and Cle Elum River channels. The purpose of the structures is to deflect the water away from the west bank of the Cle Elum River, in the vicinity of the Salmon La Sac Campground, where the water is badly undercutting the bank and existing facilities. The structures would be natural appearing and would neither impede the free-flowing character of the river nor alter the present channel here. There are no other potential water resource development sites nor existing impoundments along the portion of the corridor under study.

Scenery The upper Cle Elum corridor is a broad, flat, glaciated valley bottom that offers expansive views of the surrounding Cascade peaks, high alpine glaciers and permanent snowfields. Ribbons of old growth, avalanche chutes, talus and bedrock outcrops mark the slopes. In the valley bottom are situated Hyas and Little Hyas Lakes, which offer a spectacular view of brilliant green marshlands contrasted with the forest green of the surrounding trees. A profusion of wildflowers fill the upland meadows along the corridor in late spring and early summer. Below the wilderness boundary, the river valley narrows. Steep, rugged rock walls enclose the river course, which plunges downward in cascades, rapids waterfalls, and occasional deep pools. In the lowest segment, the valley widens once again, offering vistas of the surrounding terrain. Huge, polished rock outcrops dot a river course that is bordered by stands of large-diameter conifers.

# RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

Recreational The Cle Elum River corridor provides a great variety of recreation opportunities. Hiking, camping, nature study, fishing, hunting, viewing scenery, bicycling, auto touring, kayaking, summer home use and picnicking draw large numbers of people from both sides of the Cascade Mountains. There is excellent accessibility to the area, with all but the last four miles of river being within 1/4 mile of a road. The corridor also serves as a major route into the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and intersects the Pacific Crest National Scenic Trail in the upper reaches. Hyas, Little Hyas and Tacquala Lakes provide some boating opportunities, and kayaking and white water canoeing are popular on the river. A national kayak race is held at Salmon La Sac, which attracts over 200 entrants and 1000 spectators each year.

# RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Geologic</u> The river originates in seasonal snowfields near the Cascade Crest, flowing from there through glaciated valleys characterized by precipitous rock outcrops, high elevation cirques, mountain peaks, and steep, forested slopes. In the lower reaches, the river channel flows through more gently sloping, terraced glacial deposits.

#### RANKING: Above average.

<u>Fish</u> Historically, the anadromous fisheries of the Cle Elum River Valley were a major contributor to the fish runs of the Yakima and Columbia River basins. Species using the Cle Elum system were sockeye, steelhead, chinook and coho salmon. The Cle Elum Dam now blocks all passage of anadromous fish into Cle Elum Lake/Reservoir. However, a study by the Northwest Power Planning Council is underway to look at the feasibility of reintroducing anadromous salmonoids into the upper Cle Elum. Initially, sockeye salmon are the main species of study, but eventually other species may also be considered.

There is also a fair resident fishery in the Cle Elum River, including rainbow, cutthroat and Brook trout, as well as the sensitive bull trout.

# RANKING: Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> The Cle Elum offers excellent habitat diversity. The area is used by elk, deer, black bear, cougar and bob cat. Spotted owl habitat exists within the corridor, and there is potential bald eagle, lynx and grizzly bear habitat as well. There have also been bald eagle sightings at the upper end of the Lake Cle Elum

Reservoir. In addition, the steep cliffs and precipitous outcrops along the middle stretches of the river are frequented by large numbers of mountain goat.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> There was extensive use of the Cle Elum drainage by the Yakima Indians for fishing, hunting, camping, access to huckleberry fields and travel via Deception Pass into the Skykomish country. The area has very high cultural values today for the Yakima Indian Nation. There is also a substantial mining history connected with the corridor. Several older claims, a settlement locality, cabin sites and millsite locations exist along the valley bottom, including the Salmon La Sac Guard Station, which is on the National Register of Historic Places.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Other Values</u> There are a large number of ecotypes within the Cle Elum River corridor, including wetlands, avalanche chutes, riparian vegetation, cliffs, old burns and areas of mixed conifer cover. However, no sensitive plant species have been identified within the portion of the river under study.

RANKING: Above Average.

#### Conclusion

The Cle Elum River, above Cle Elum Lake, meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic River classification. It has "OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE" scenic, recreational, historical and cultural values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

# **WAPTUS RIVER**

The entire Waptus River, from the headwaters to the confluence with the Cle Elum River, is being considered for designation as a potential Wild and Scenic River. The total length of the corridor is 13.0 miles, with all of the acreage being National Forest. The upper 12.0 miles are located entirely within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	13.0	4,160
Total	13.0	4,160

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Waptus River originates just east of the Cascade Crest in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Topography consists of a glaciated, U-shaped valley, interrupted by a narrow stretch of steep-walled gorge. Vegetation varies between a mixed conifer timber cover and both wet and dry meadow habitats.

The Waptus River is unmodified and free-flowing throughout its length.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> At its upper end, near Lake Ivanhoe, the Waptus River flows through a classic, U-shaped valley, offering a spectacular view of the pristine, timbered valley below, and of the surrounding, snow capped peaks. The river tumbles through two sizable mountain lakes and a series of falls, to its confluence with the equally scenic Cle Elum River. Old growth stands, and wet and dry meadow openings offer a diversity of vegetation for viewing, particularly the latter with their profusion of wildflowers and bog-associated plants.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Recreational</u> The Waptus River is tremendously popular for backcountry use by both hikers and those with stock. In fact, the Waptus River Trail #1310, an eleven mile long trunk trail that extends into the wilderness via the river corridor, is one of the most heavily used trails in the Pacific Northwest. This trail is also intersected along the way by several tributary trails as well as by the Pacific Crest Trail. Dispersed camping opportunities exist the entire length of the river.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river rises in a glacially-carved, U-shaped valley. The course is typified by oxbow lakes in large, wet meadows, by sheer rock faces, and by numerous examples of glacial striations on the valley walls as well as glacial till, moraines and roches moutonnees. Near the lower reaches is a spectacular gorge, with pools and slabs characterizing the channel through there.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> Because of the dam below Lake Cle Elum, the habitat in the lower Waptus is currently unavailable to anadromous fish. However, planted rainbow trout and the sensitive bull trout inhabit the river.

RANKING: Below Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> Wildlife in the Waptus corridor includes mule deer, elk, bear, coyote, cougar, spotted and barred owls, eagles, osprey, loons, many songbirds and small mammals. Excellent wildlife viewing opportunities exist in several areas along the river, including frequent mountain goat sightings on the cliffs and bluffs within the corridor.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The Yakima Indians made use of the Waptus River corridor for backcountry hunting, plant gathering and travel. At least one prehistoric campsite has been documented within the drainage. Historic use was primarily oriented to low intensity fur trapping, represented today by the remnants of cabin sites, marten sets, and a dug-out canoe. Mining also took place within the corridor, particularly near the headwaters.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Other Values</u> There is a complex variety of ecotypes within the Waptus drainage. Among these are sizable old growth stands, riparian vegetation, cliffs, dry meadows, and wet lands that are characterized by a wealth of bog-associated vegetation, including the carnivorous sundew and bog orchids.

RANKING: Above Average.

#### Conclusion

The Waptus River meets the eligibility criteria for Wıld and Scenic River classification. It has "OUT-STANDINGLY REMARKABLE" scenic values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

#### ENTIAT RANGER DISTRICT

#### **ENTIAT RIVER**

The Entiat River corridor, from the headwaters to the private land boundary above Burns Creek, is being considered for designation as a potential Wild and Scenic River. Below Burns Creek, the Entiat River does not meet the eligibility criteria due to extensive straightening and channeling of the river course. The total length of the portion of the corridor under study is 31.5 miles, with all of the acreage being National Forest. The upper 12.5 miles are located entirely within the Glacier Peak Wilderness.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest Total	31.5 <b>31.5</b>	10,080 <b>10.080</b>

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Entiat River originates four and one-half miles east of the Cascade Crest in the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Topography varies from a narrow, steep, glaciated valley in the upper reaches, to a somewhat broader U-shaped valley through the middle and lower stretches. Vegetation is a combination of mixed conifer timber types, with Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine and meadow openings in the lower portion. There has been some modification of the landscape adjacent to the river due to the 1970 Entiat wildfires and as a consequence of timber management activities in the area between Burns Creek and Cottonwood Campground.

There are no shoreline modifications, diversions or impoundments of the Entiat River within the potential Wild and Scenic River corridor.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The scenic values of the Entiat are considered to be outstandingly remarkable. Originating in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, this steep glaciated valley is bordered by extensive snowfields and alpine glaciers, high mountain peaks, and rugged slopes with large outcrops of granite and gneiss. The river plunges in cascading rapids, riffles and falls, to a meandering course in the broader valley of the lower reaches. A mixed conifer forest, interspersed with both patches of old growth and with natural openings, contributes to the pristine setting of the river.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Recreational</u> Recreation use of the Entiat attracts visitors from both east and west of the Cascades. The drainage serves as an access route to the Glacier Peak Wilderness, as well as for destination camping, fishing, hunting, picnicking, water play and trail bike riding. There is occasional boating and rafting on the lower portion of the river, and in the winter months, some snowmobiling and cross-country skiing.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Geologic</u> In the upper Entiat, the river plunges from its headwaters at the Entiat Glacier on Mt. Maude, in a series of glacially quarried steps and basins, to the broader floodplain of the lower reaches. Outcrops of metamorphic schist and gneiss, intrusive granodiorite and quartz diorite are blanketed through much of the corridor by glacial till and alluvium. The characteristic U-shaped valley extends through all three segments.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> Prior to 1898, there were significant runs of chinook and coho salmon, and steelhead trout up the Entiat River. These had become nearly non-existent by the 1930's. However, rehabilitation of the runs has been ongoing for the last 25 years, and today moderate numbers of these anadromous fish run the Entiat as far as Entiat Falls.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> Wildlife in the corridor includes a large population of mule deer, as well as black bear, coyote and spotted owl. There is wolverine habitat in the upper reaches, and bald eagle roosts near the river.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> There was modest use of the river for salmon fishing by the Entiat Indians, whose permanent villages extended as far upriver as Ardenvoir. It is also likely that hunting parties camped along the river margins, branching from here into side canyons and tributaries. Historic uses were predominantly trapping (on the upper reaches), homesteading, logging and early Forest Service administration (1920's). Some evidence of these uses are still visible today, including historic Forest Service administrative sites at Silver Falls and Cottonwood.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Other Values</u> There are no known sensitive plants in the portion of the drainage under study. With respect to ecotypes, the corridor is a typical upland Cascade river valley.

RANKING: Average.

#### Conclusion

The Entiat River meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic River classification. It has "<u>OUT-STANDINGLY REMARKABLE</u>" scenic values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

#### LAKE WENATCHEE RANGER DISTRICT

# **CHIWAWA RIVER**

The entire Chiwawa River, from the headwaters to the confluence with the Wenatchee River, was identified as a potential Wild and Scenic River in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory published by the National Park Service in 1982. The total length of the river is 35.0 miles. Of the total Chiwawa drainage, only 11% is in private ownership, with most of this being in the lower 3 1/2 miles of the river. The upper five miles are located entirely within the Glacier Peak Wilderness.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	30.5	10,240
Private	4 5	1,280
Total	35.0	11,520

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Chiwawa River originates east of the Cascade Crest in the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Topography consists of a narrow, steep, glaciated valley in the upper reaches, a broader U-shaped corridor through the middle stretch, and rolling to somewhat flat terrain near the mouth. Vegetation is a combination of mixed conifer timber types, with Douglas-fir, ponderosa pine and meadow openings in the lower portion.

Some riprap and a diversion exist along the middle and lower reaches of the river. Approximately 150 to 200 feet of log and rock cribbing has been installed along the bank at Atkinson Flat Campground, in the NW 1/4 of Section 23, T.29N., R.16E. The six foot wide Wenatchee-Chiwawa Irrigation Canal takes off from an intake box on the south side of the Chiwawa in the NW 1/4 of Section 30, T.27N., R.18E., and parallels the west edge of the river corridor for approximately four miles, before diverging to the Wenatchee. Other small irrigation diversions exist along the lower three miles of the river, but none impede the free-flowing character of the Chiwawa.

One other development soon to be constructed by the Chelan County P.U.D. in the NE 1/4 of Section 1, T.26N., R.17E., and the SE 1/4 of Section 36, T.27N., R.17E. is a fish rearing station. The facility will consist of a large slotted concrete intake "box" along the north riverbank, a small stretch of riprap, an outflow pipe, and 200 feet upland of the river, fenced rearing ponds and support facilities. The intake will divert approximately 21 cfs from the Chiwawa to the rearing station. Associated with this will also be a small intake structure and outfall pipe on the Wenatchee River, approximately 1600 feet northwest of the rearing ponds. The development plans for the entire project have been reviewed by the National Park Service, and were determined to be consistent with the criteria established for the Recreational classification of this segment of the Chiwawa.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The Chiwawa drainage is typified at its upper end by towering mountain peaks, extensive snowfields and imposing valley walls with numerous rocky areas. The river channel here is narrow and plunges downstream in frequent cascades and small falls, which gradually lessen in intensity as the river enters the broader, U-shaped valley of the mid- and lower segments.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Recreational</u> A naturally scenic environment, reasonable access, rustic campground developments, and good fishing, hunting, hiking and white water rafting opportunities attract large numbers of users to the Chiwawa every year. The middle stretches of the river provide one of the most popular recreation destinations in the Lake Wenatchee area. In the winter months, snowmobiling is a frequent activity, with the Trinity townsite serving as a destination location. The Chiwawa is also the most heavily used access route into the Glacier Peak Wilderness east of the Cascades.

#### RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Geologic</u> The geology of the Chiwawa is typical of the other river systems that are tributary to the upper Wenatchee drainage. The river rises in glaciers, seasonal snowfields, and meadows near the Cascade Crest, plunging from there through a steep-walled glaciated valley. Outcrops of Jurassic gneiss at the upper end are replaced by a mantel of alpine glacial outwash from a point just above Rock Creek down to the confluence of the Chiwawa with the Wenatchee River, where the topography is characteristically more open and rolling.

# RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> The Chiwawa is fairly unique in the upper Columbia River system because of the high number of wild, unsupplemented runs of spring chinook and steelhead. There is also an excellent resident fishery, and the bull trout, a sensitive species, inhabits the river.

#### RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Wildlife</u> Common animal life in the Chiwawa include mule deer, black bear, mountain goat, spotted, barred and great horned owl, pine marten, beaver and otter. In the lower Chiwawa are osprey, bald eagle and elk. Grizzly bear habitat has been identified in the drainage as well.

#### RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> There was substantial use of the Chiwawa by Wenatchi Indians for fishing, hunting and access to berry fields. A summer village was reportedly located near Rock Creek, and the Wenatchi people have retained a strong cultural association with the Chiwawa. Historic use of the drainage was directed primarily to mining and trapping. Numerous examples of cabin sites, mining features and a historic townsite remain.

# RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Other Values</u> There is a good variety of ecotypes within the Chiwawa River corridor, including wetlands, cottonwood groves, wet site, old growth western red cedar and old growth, mixed conifer forest. No sensitive plant species have been identified within the portion of the river under study.

#### RANKING: Above Average.

#### Conclusion

The Chiwawa River meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic River classification. It has "OUT-STANDINGLY REMARKABLE" scenic, recreational and fishery values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

# LITTLE WENATCHEE RIVER

The Little Wenatchee River, from the headwaters to the outlet at Lake Wenatchee, is being considered for designation as a potential Wild and Scenic River. The total length of the river is 27.5 miles. Of the acreage in the corridor, 9% is in private ownership, this being concentrated along the lower reaches of the river. The upper six miles are located entirely within the Henry M. Jackson Wilderness.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	25 0	8,000
Private	25	800
Total	27.5	8,800

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Little Wenatchee River originates east of the Cascade Crest in the Henry M. Jackson Wilderness. Topography ranges from a broad, hanging valley at the far, upper end, to sections of steep-sided gorges in the upper and middle reaches, to a wide, meandering river channel along the lower eight miles. Vegetative cover also varies from open meadows to a mixed conifer timber cover.

The Little Wenatchee River is free-flowing throughout its length.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> At its upper end, the Little Wenatchee River meanders across a broad, meadow-filled, hanging valley ringed by sharply incised, snow-capped peaks. The river plunges from this valley in a spectacular falls, tumbling through a series of gorges, to a more sinuous course in the wider valley of the lower reaches.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Recreational</u> Recreation use along the river is primarily directed to camping, fishing, hiking and hunting. The drainage serves as a popular access route to the Henry M. Jackson and Glacier Peak Wildernesses.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river rises in a glacially-carved, hanging valley near the Cascade Crest, tumbling from there through a series of steep-walled gorges characterized by numerous, metamorphic outcrops. In the lower reaches, the river channel is one of slower meanders due to the open, more gently rolling topography near Lake Wenatchee.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> The Lake Wenatchee system, of which the Little Wenatchee River is a tributary, is one of only two remaining lake/river systems in the Columbia River drainage that still supports a natural run of sockeye salmon. The lower eight miles of the Little Wenatchee provides important spawning habitat for approximately 25% of this run. In addition, there are spring chinook salmon as well as steelhead in this lower eight mile stretch.

RANKING: Outstandingly Remarkable (in the lower, eight mile stretch).

<u>Wildlife</u> The mix of riparian vegetation, cliffs, slide areas, and variety of tree species provide habitat for the black bear, mule deer, spotted owl, osprey, great blue heron, bald eagle and peregrine falcon.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The Wenatchi Indians made use of the Little Wenatchee drainage for access to the backcountry and as a travelway through the Cascades to what is now western Washington. It is likely that small fishing camps were also established along the lower stretches. Historic use was directed primarily to fur trapping and travel by early exploring expeditions.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Ecological</u> There is a high variety of ecotypes within the Little Wenatchee drainage, including alpine meadows, wetlands, riparian vegetation, cliffs, avalanche chutes, and old growth conifers. However, no sensitive plant species have been identified within the corridor.

RANKING: Above Average.

#### Conclusion

The lower eight mile segment of the Little Wenatchee River meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic River classification. It has "<u>OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE</u>" fish values. This segment should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System. Although the remainder of the river has above average values, none are "outstandingly remarkable." Classification of those river segments and determination of suitability is not recommended.

# **NAPEEQUA RIVER**

The entire Napeequa River corridor, from the headwaters to the confluence with the White River, is being considered for designation as a potential Wild and Scenic River. The total length of river is 16.0 miles. Of the total acreage in the corridor, 6% is in private ownership, all of this being in the lowest mile of the river. The upper 15 miles are located within the Glacier Peak Wilderness, and include the mainstem of the Napeequa as well as the Twin Lakes Creek tributary.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	15 0	4,806
Private	10	314
Total	16.0	5,120

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

(The confluence of the Napeequa with the White River overlaps with acreage that is also part of the proposed Scenic River corridor of the White.)

The Napeequa River originates east of the Cascade Crest in the Glacier Peak Wilderness. The topography is dominated by a narrow, steep, talus-walled valley. Vegetation is a mixed confer timber type with frequent natural openings.

There are no impoundments or diversions of the river, but riprap has been installed near the confluence of the Napeequa with the White River, as well as in the vicinity of the Tall Timbers Homeowners Association subdivision. These minor shoreline modifications do not impede the free-flowing characteristics of the river, however.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The Napeequa River is noted for its outstanding scenery. The river flows through a high elevation glacial trough that eventually narrows to a steep, talus-walled valley. Towering mountain peaks, impressive alpine glaciers, extensive snowfields, rugged granitic outcrops, and a vegetative cover marked by scattered old growth, hardwoods, and interspersed meadow openings, characterize the corridor. The watercourse tumbles through this valley in a series of waterfalls, cascades and slow meanders.

#### RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Recreational</u> Most of the recreation use on the Napeequa is in connection with the developments on private land in the lowest stretches. Above this point, recreation use is light, being directed primarily to hiking, dispersed camping, hunting and fishing. The drainage also serves as a minor access route into the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Because of the low density of use, the Napeequa provides a good opportunity for solitude.

RANKING: Below Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The Napeequa River rises in glaciers, snowfields and meadows in the Cascade peaks, flowing through a pronounced, high elevation glacial trough that dramatically changes at midsection to a narrow, talus-walled, U-shaped valley.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Fish</u> The Napeequa is one of four rivers in Eastern Washington where a natural sockeye run still exists. However, because of a waterfall, the run is limited to the first few miles only. The bull trout, a sensitive species, also inhabits the river.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> The Napeequa provides summer range for deer, and habitat for black bear, beaver, otter, spotted owl (in the lower reaches) and golden eagle. There is good mountain goat habitat the entire length, and at least one grizzly bear sighting has been reported in the drainage.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> Prehistoric use of the river is unknown. A Wenatchi Indian fishing camp was reportedly once situated on the White River, near the mouth of the Napeequa. However, no cultural resource survey work has been conducted along this drainage, and there are presently no sites identified. Historic uses are likewise unknown.

**RANKING: Below Average.** 

<u>Other Values</u> There is a complex variety of ecotypes in this drainage, associated with the geologic formation and glacial history of the valley.

RANKING: Average.

#### Conclusion

The Napeequa River meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic River classification. It has "OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE" scenic and geologic values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

#### WENATCHEE RIVER

The Wenatchee River, from the outlet of Lake Wenatchee to the confluence with Icicle Creek, was identified as a potential Wild and Scenic River in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory published by the National Park Service in 1982. This portion of the river is approximately 30.0 miles in length. Twenty-eight of these miles are within the boundary of the Wenatchee National Forest, and include a mix of National Forest, Washington State and private ownership. The remaining 2.0 miles outside the Forest boundary are entirely private.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	12 25 miles	3920 acres
Wenatchee NF/Private Mix 1/	5.00 miles	1600 acres
State of Washington	.5 miles	160 acres
State of WA/Private Mix <sup>2</sup> /	1.5 miles	480 acres
Private	10.75 miles	3440 acres
Total	30.0 miles	9600 acres

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Wenatchee River originates at the outlet of Lake Wenatchee. Topography is flat or gently rolling from the Lake to the upper end of Tumwater Canyon. The canyon is well known for its spectacular cliffs, rugged outcrops, steep slopes and plunging river course. Vegetation consists of mixed conifer timber types, Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine, with meadows in the upper portion.

One impoundment and a diversion exist within the Tumwater Canyon portion of the river. The Tumwater Dam, a sixteen foot high concrete structure in the SE 1/4 of Section 33, T.25N., R.17E., was constructed in 1909 by Great Northern Railroad to divert water for power generation in the electrification of their railroad line. The dam resulted in the formation of Lake Jolanda, a pristine, three-quarter mile long reservoir located on private land behind the dam. With the exception of the dam itself, there are no longer any water diversion facilities at the site. The river is essentially unimpeded today (it spills freely over the dam), a fish ladder was recently reconstructed to allow more efficient passage of salmon and steelhead, and the shoreline and lakeshore remain natural and riverine in appearance. Because of its historic associations with Great Northern, whose line once traversed Tumwater Canyon, the dam and former powerhouse site provide an excellent opportunity for interpretation.

About one half mile above the mouth of Tumwater Canyon, on the south side of the river, is an old concrete diversion box and remnants of a canal. These facilities were built by the Leavenworth Fish Hatchery, but are no longer in use.

Near the mouth of the Chiwawa River, planning is under way for the construction of a water intake structure and outflow pipe along the river bank as part of a fish rearing station that is to be built on the Chiwawa. The intake will divert approximately 12 cfs from the Wenatchee River, to be used as warming water to supplement that being taken from the Chiwawa.

<sup>1/</sup> National Forest on one side of the river through this portion of the corridor, private on the other.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup>/ State of Washington on one side of the river through this portion of the corridor, private on the other.

## Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The Wenatchee drainage ranges from gently rolling, forested terrain interspersed with open meadows in the vicinity of Lake Wenatchee, to spectacular cliffs, enormous boulders, craggy outcrops and cascading rapids through Tumwater Canyon. The canyon is particularly noted for its outstanding scenery viewing.

#### RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Recreational</u> The Wenatchee River experiences heavy recreation use due to the diverse, all season opportunities available. Camping, picnicking, hiking, driving for pleasure, viewing scenery, rock climbing, fishing, water play, cross country skiing, snowmobiling, horseback riding and photography draw people in steady numbers from both sides of the mountains to the corridor. The entire length of the river is accessible by road, it provides a strong attraction to those who enjoy white water rafting and boating, and the Tumwater Canyon stretch is perhaps one of the most scenic river segments in the State.

### RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Geologic</u> The river originates at the outlet of Lake Wenatchee, meandering from there through flat to gently rolling terrain for two-thirds of its length above Tumwater Canyon. The lower third of the potentially eligible portion of the river is dominated by the rugged Tumwater Canyon, with its steep, nearly vertical walls, immense boulders, and plunging rapids.

# RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> The river is noted for its excellent fishing with high success ratios. There are resident planted fish as well as large runs of steelhead, sockeye salmon, and spring and summer/fall chinook salmon, which spawn or travel through the river. The Wenatchee River system is one of only two remaining river/lake systems in the Columbia River drainage that supports a natural, self-sustaining sockeye run. A sensitive species (bull trout) also inhabits this river.

#### RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Wildlife</u> There is good diversity in the wildlife habitat available, including an extensive riparian zone, many cliffs and rock outcrops, slide areas, and the variety of ecotypes associated with these. Among the more notable wildlife using the corridor are black bears, mule deer, spotted owls, osprey, great blue herons, bald eagles and peregrin falcons.

#### RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The Wenatchee River corridor falls within the traditional fishing territory of the Wenatchi Indians. There was intensive use of the drainage prehistorically and in early historic times by these people for winter and summer settlements, fishing and as a major travelway to western Washington. This portion of the river drainage contains numerous identified archaeological sites, including the only known petroglyph site on the Wenatchee National Forest. There was early historic settlement of the drainage (beginning in the 1870's below Leavenworth and 1880's above), transportation use (Great Northern Railroad and turn-of-the-century highway development), hydroelectric development (in Tumwater Canyon) and placer mining.

# RANKING: Outstandingly Remarkable.

<u>Other Values</u> The Tumwater Canyon portion of the Wenatchee River is exceptional ecologically because of the high variety of ecotypes present: the steep side slopes, rugged cliffs, and unusual soils. This is one of only two locations known where a small population of <u>Hackelia venusta</u> occurs. (This plant is being proposed for listing as an endangered species.) A Special Botanical Area has also been created within the canyon in recognition of the <u>Lewisia tweedyi</u> species that grows here.

RANKING: Outstandingly Remarkable.

#### Conclusion

The Wenatchee River meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic River classification. It has "<u>OUT-STANDINGLY REMARKABLE</u>" scenic, recreational, fishery, historical, cultural, and ecological values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

# WHITE RIVER

The entire White River corridor, from the headwaters to Lake Wenatchee, was identified as a potential Wild and Scenic River in the Nationwide Rivers Inventory published by the National Park Service in 1982. The total length of river is 34.0 miles. Of the total acreage in the corridor, 22% is in private ownership, all of this being in the lower third of the river. The upper 15 miles are located entirely within the Glacier Peak Wilderness.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	26.5	8,440
Private	7.5	2,440
Total	34.0	10,880

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The White River originates east of the Cascade Crest in the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Topography varies from a narrow, steep, glaciated valley at the upper end, to somewhat rolling terrain near Lake Wenatchee. Vegetation is a mixed conifer timber type, with extensive meadowlands in the lower portion.

A limited amount of riprap has been installed along the river bank five miles upstream of Lake Wenatchee and at the approaches to the Sears Creek bridge. As mentioned in the Napeequa analysis, there is also riprap along the Napeequa near its confluence with the White River. These are small, unobtrusive alterations, however, and there are no diversions or impoundments to impede the free-flowing character of the river.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

Scenery The White River is noted for its varied and outstanding scenery. Originating high in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, the river takes its name from the glacial silt that gives it a distinct milky appearance. At its upper end, the river plunges through a steep-walled glaciated valley that is bordered by stark mountain peaks, impressive alpine glaciers, precipitous cliffs, and numerous bare rock slopes, into the broader, more gently rolling terrain near Lake Wenatchee. The river corridor is one of cascading riffles and white water rapids, meanders, oxbows and wetlands. Patches of old growth interspersed with lush, green meadows add to the pristine ambience of the corridor.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Recreational</u> The White River has high recreation use. Stands of unusually large cottonwood and old growth conifers, quiet, riverside meadows, and a river course that ranges from thundering falls to pastoral meanders, plus opportunities for hiking, picnicking, camping, fishing, hunting, and rafting offer an irresistible attraction to visitors from both east and west of the Cascades. In addition, the drainage serves as an entry point to the Glacier Peak Wilderness. During the winter months, there are good cross-country skiing opportunities, particularly along the established road system.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river originates in high alpine glaciers and seasonal snowfields near the crest of the Cascade Mountains, tumbling from there through a steep-walled valley that is characterized by numerous metamorphic outcrops. The course is marked at the upper and midreaches by vigorous rapids, riffles and falls. The lower stretches, however, are distinctive for their sinuous meanders and oxbows, as the river enters the flatter terrain near Lake Wenatchee.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> The Lake Wenatchee system, of which the White River is a tributary, is one of only two remaining lake/river systems in the Columbia River drainage that still support a natural run of sockeye salmon. Within the Lake Wenatchee system, the majority of these sockeye spawn in the White River. In addition, there are spring chinook, as well as steelhead runs up the White. The sensitive bull trout also inhabits the river.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Wildlife</u> The White River offers a great variety of wildlife habitat. In the lower stretches are such riverine species as osprey, great blue heron, beaver and otter. The area is also an important bald eagle wintering grounds and is currently being used as a bald eagle nesting site. The middle reaches are highly productive black bear habitat, and there has been at least one sighting of moose here. In the upper segment are spotted owl, grizzly bear and wolverine habitat. Mountain goats use the cliffs along the north side of the corridor, and mule deer, elk, cougar and marten can be found throughout the drainage. The White River also has the highest density of pileated woodpeckers on the Lake Wenatchee Ranger District.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The White River drainage received substantial use by the Wenatchi Indians for fishing, cedar bark collection and access to backcountry berry fields and hunting localities. The drainage also provided a travelway to western Washington, with a connecting route into the Chiwawa drainage as well. There was early homesteading along the lower reaches, and historic fur trapping and sheep grazing use in the upper segment.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Other Values</u> The broad valley bottom, mix of vegetation, and presence of cliffs contributes to an above average variety in ecotypes within the river corridor.

RANKING: Above Average.

#### Conclusion

The White River meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic River classification. It has "OUT-STANDINGLY REMARKABLE" scenic and fishery values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

### LEAVENWORTH RANGER DISTRICT

#### **ICICLE CREEK**

Icicle Creek was identified as a potential Wild and Scenic River in Phase I of the Nationwide Rivers Inventory published by the National Park Service. The corridor, from the headwaters to the Forest boundary, is currently being considered for designation as part of the National System. Below the Forest boundary, the Icicle does not meet the eligibility criteria due to impediments to the free-flowing character of the river. The total length of the creek above the Forest boundary is 28.5 miles. Of the acreage in the corridor, 30% is in private ownership. The upper 12 miles are located entirely within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	20.0	6,400
Private	8.5	2,720
Total	28.5	9,120

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

Icicle Creek originates east of the Cascade Crest in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Topography consists of a predominantly narrow, steep, glaciated valley, with sections of broader floodplain and more rounded hills. Vegetation varies from a mixed conifer timber type with frequent natural openings, to Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine in the lower elevations.

In midsection, 500 feet of riprap has been installed to protect the river bank and improvements here. The lower stretches have been affected to some degree by three water developments: the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery diversion, which is located outside the Forest boundary; the Icicle Irrigation District dam and canal in the SE 1/4 of Section 28, T.24N., R.17E.; and the City of Leavenworth water intake, in the same general location.

Although the Fish Hatchery dam is downstream of the eligible segments of the river, it does have some effect on the quality of the upper river corridor in that the dam blocks all upstream fish passage. In addition, both the Fish Hatchery and the Irrigation District have facilities on some of the high mountain lakes that drain into the Icicle near the lower end of the corridor. These facilities allow the storage and release of additional water into the river on an "as needed" basis.

The Icicle Irrigation District dam is a small, spillway type of structure that serves to divert water into a nearby canal. There is no impoundment of the water behind it. The City of Leavenworth water intake, a block-like cement structure set into the river bank, also has no effect on the free-flowing character of the Icicle.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The Icicle is a narrow, steep, glaciated valley characterized by a cascading water course that plunges downstream in a series of cataracts, riffles and rapids. Views from the river are of high, open ridges, extensive snowfields, majestic peaks, and rugged slopes with many granite cliffs and outcrops. The mixed conifer cover is interspersed with frequent natural openings.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Recreational</u> The Icicle drainage is exceptionally popular because of its easy accessibility to visitors from both the Puget Sound area to the west, and north central Washington and the Columbia Basin to the east. In addition, its proximity to the well known tourist village of Leavenworth substantially contributes to the public use along the corridor. The lower 16 1/2 miles are completely reachable by road, the upper twelve by trail. The valley is noted for several granite outcroppings of special appeal to rock climbers, and the upper drainage serves as an important entry point to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

<u>Geologic</u> The river originates at Lake Josephine and in seasonal snowfields and meadows near the Cascade Crest, plunging from there through a U-shaped glaciated valley characterized by precipitous granite cliffs and outcrops, and rugged, forested slopes.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Fish</u> Because of the diversion dams on the lower reaches of the creek, the habitat above these is unavailable to anadromous fish. However, there is a fair resident fishery above these facilities.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> A diversity of ecotypes offers habitat to both the spotted and barred owl, as well as to mule deer, elk and mountain goat.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> A prehistoric salmon fishery was once situated at the mouth of the Icicle, and the Wenatchi Indians used the upper corridor for the collection of plant materials, for travel into the backcountry and for overland access into the Cle Elum drainage. The corridor also served as a travelway in historic times for miners with claims in the upper Jack Creek and French Creek drainages. And finally, the Chatter Creek Guard Station near the confluence of Chatter Creek with the Icicle, is listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Other Values</u> There are no known sensitive plants in the Icicle drainage. With respect to ecotypes, the corridor is a typical upland Cascade river valley.

RANKING: Average.

#### Conclusion

The Icicle Creek meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic Rivers classification. It has "OUTSTANDINGLY REMARKABLE" scenic and recreational values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

## **NACHES RANGER DISTRICT**

#### <u>AMERICAN RIVER</u>

The American River corridor, from the headwaters to the confluence with the Bumping River, is being considered for designation as a potential Wild and Scenic River. The total length of river is 22.0 miles, with all of the corridor being National Forest. The upper six miles of the river are located entirely within the William O. Douglas Wilderness.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	22 0	7,040
Total	22.0	7,040

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The American River originates east of the Cascade Crest at American Lake, in the William O. Douglas Wilderness. This is the only eligible river system on the Wenatchee National Forest occurring within the Recent High Cascades Landscape Type. Topography ranges from a broad, U-shaped, glaciated valley near the headwaters of the river, to a narrow, steep-walled rocky canyon in the lower reaches. Vegetation types likewise vary from mixed conifer forest in the upper end to Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine in the lower stretches.

The river is an important source for downstream irrigation, but there are no known water resource developments or modifications. The American River is free-flowing its entire length.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The American River drainage is noted for its varied, outstanding scenery. Originating high in the William O. Douglas Wilderness, the upper course tumbles eastward through a broad, glaciated valley characterized, near the Cascade Crest, by immense, back-to-back cirque basins. At its lower end, the river corridor changes dramatically, as it plunges through a narrow, winding canyon accentuated by precipitous andesite cliffs. The river course is one of cascading rapids, riffles and white water areas throughout the segments under study. Lands adjacent to Highway 410, along the north side of the river, have been designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as the Mather Memorial Parkway "for the use and the enjoyment of the general public for scenic and recreation purposes..."

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

Recreational The American River corridor serves as an access route to Mt. Rainier National Park, attracting both transitory and destination-oriented use. Visitors from the Yakima and Tri-Cities area to the east, and Puget Sound to the west, camp, fish, hunt, picnic, hike and view scenery along the the river. White water kayaking attracts the more adventuresome, and there is some cross-country skiing in the winter months. Trailheads along the river provide entry points into both the Norse Peak and William O. Douglas Wilderness.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Geologic</u> Glaciation has left a distinctive pattern, at the upper end of the American River, of huge, back-to-back cirques and broad valley bottoms through which the river tumbles. Below Hell's Crossing, the corridor narrows to a winding canyon with steep andesite cliffs.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> Although the spring chinook and steelhead runs are low at present, the American River has the highest quality fishery in the Naches River system in terms of probable genetic integrity of the species, and quality of the spawning habitat. The potential for enhancement of these species is high. There is also a good resident fishery, and a sensitive species, the bull trout, inhabits the river.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> High quality old growth forest and high elevation wetlands, bogs and meadows in the drainage support a variety of wildlife species. The bald eagle, a threatened species, and the endangered peregrine falcon, both use the American River as a feeding source. The river corridor is also used by the Northern Spotted Owl, Rocky Mountain elk, mule deer and a number of small mammals.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The American River was formerly within the territory of the Yakima Indians, and was used throughout the spring, summer and fall for hunting, fishing and travel. Archaeological evidence of this use has been identified throughout much of the corridor. Historic mining, livestock grazing and fur trapping occurred in the upper reaches, with occasional remnants still visible in the river corridor.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Other Values</u> The American River provides a good variety of ecotypes, including old growth forest, high elevation wetlands, bogs, meadows, riparian vegetation, talus slopes, cliffs and other rock forms. There are no known sensitive plants within the corridor.

RANKING: Above Average.

#### Conclusion

The American River meets the eligibility criteria for Wild and Scenic River classification. It has "<u>OUT-STANDINGLY REMARKABLE</u>" scenic values. This river should be further evaluated for its suitability as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System.

#### B. INELIGIBLE RIVERS

This section describes the information and results of the eligibility analysis for the rivers determined to be ineligible for classification under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.

Using the eligibility process described earlier, ten of the twenty rivers considered in the Supplement were determined to be ineligible for designation because they did not meet the free-flowing criteria and/or, in the professional judgement of the ID team, they did not appear to have an outstandingly remarkable value. These rivers, and the rationale for their ineligibility, are summarized in Table E-2.

TABLE E-2 RIVERS FOUND INELIGIBLE

	RIVER WHY INELIGIBLE	
_	One segment not free-flowing, other segments without one outstandingly remarkable value	∍.
	No outstandingly remarkable values.	
	Large segment not free-flowing, other segments without one outstandingly remarkable value	16.
	River channel modified for significant part of length.	

Mad No outstandingly remarkable values.

Naches No outstandingly remarkable values

**North Fork** 

**Bumping** 

Cooper

Kachess

Little Naches

Entiat No outstandingly remarkable values.

Rattlesnake

Creek No outstandingly remarkable values.

**Teanaway** Segments not free-flowing; other segments without one outstandingly remarkable value.

**Tleton** One segment not free-flowing; other segments without one outstandingly remarkable value.

A more detailed description of the ineligible rivers and their ratings are included below.

In the original Appendix E, distributed with the Wenatchee National Forest DEIS, the North Fork Entiat and the Mad Rivers were identified in an alternative proposed by a coalition of environmental groups, as eligible and recommended for further study. The eligibility of the rivers was based on the fact that they are free-flowing. However, a thorough assessment of their eligibility with respect to "outstandingly remarkable" values was not made. The Supplement completed this eligibility determination, and recommended no further study of the North Fork Entiat and Mad Rivers.

The following is a discussion of the general setting, eligibility values and conclusions for each of the ineligible rivers. With the exception of the reassessment of the Waptus River, and a rearrangement of the sequence in which the rivers are presented, these descriptions are presently unchanged from the 1988 Supplement.

# **CLE ELUM RANGER DISTRICT**

# **COOPER RIVER**

Total miles of river to the confluence with the Cle Elum River is 10.5 miles. All of the 10.5 miles are within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary and 3.0 miles are within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Approximately 2.0 miles are on private land.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	8.5	2,720
Private	2.0	640
Tota!	10.5	3,360

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Cooper River originates east of the Cascade Crest within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and is free-flowing for most of its length. There is one lake within the mid-portion of the drainage. Topography ranges from a glaciated valley to a somewhat narrow valley at the lower end. Vegetation type is primarily mixed conifer.

The river is paralleled by Forest road #4600 for approximately eighty percent of its length outside of the Wilderness. Some vegetation adjacent to the river is modified through timber harvest and roading. Access to the river is provided by Forest roads and trails.

Recreation is primarily hiking, camping, fishing and hunting. There are two Forest Service developed campgrounds and some undeveloped sites used for camping. There is no known use of the river by boaters. A water falls between Cooper Lake and the Cle Elum River inhibits use by floaters.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The landform is dissected by ridges and moderately steep slopes. The river and streams have rapids and cascades with meandering segments. Heavy timber stands occur with frequent natural openings and rock outcrops.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Recreational</u> Use along the river is primarily camping, fishing, and hunting. Serves as access to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river rises in seasonal snowfields with mountain meadows and glaciated valleys. It flows through a narrow canyon at the lower end which is typical of many rivers.

RANKING: Average.

Fish The anadromous and resident fish habitat is low.

RANKING: Below Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> There is a large amount of high quality old growth habitat and some marsh habitat in this river bottom. This area is average for wildlife diversity.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The drainage provided a travelway and access for acquiring food and household materials prehistorically. There is a known peeled cedar site and there are identified camp sites. Low intensity fur trapping occurred within historic times.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Other Values</u> The area has old growth habitats of Douglas-fir and white fir as well as the marsh land.

RANKING: Average.

#### Conclusion

While there are above average resource values within the Cooper River and its adjacent forests, none are "outstandingly remarkable." The Cooper River <u>is not eligible</u> for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

#### KACHESS RIVER

Total miles of river to the confluence with the Yakima River at Easton Lake is 2.5 miles. The entire 2.5 miles are within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary of which 1.0 mile is State of Washington or private land. In addition to these miles, there is a significant distance (approximately 10 miles) impounded by the Kachess Dam.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	1.25	400
State of Washington	0.75	240
Private	0.50	160
Total	2.50	800

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river

The Kachess River originates just outside the Alpine Lakes Wilderness (two of its tributaries extend into the Wilderness for short distances), and flows south to its confluence with the Yakima River. The Kachess is impounded for a significant length. Vegetation consists of mixed conifer timber types with frequent natural openings.

The river is paralleled for only a short distance at its upper end by Forest Road #4600, however, Kachess Lake has roads on the east and west shorelines. There are additional roads near the lake for short distances, and the adjacent landscape has been modified in places through vegetative manipulation during timber harvest.

Recreation in the drainage is primarily camping, fishing, and boating on the lake. There is one major Forest Service developed campground as well as some undeveloped sites used for camping.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The landform is dissected by ridges and moderately steep slopes. The river and tributary streams have some rapids and cascades. The drainage contains heavy to scattered timber stands with frequent natural openings and small to medium size rock outcrops.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Recreational</u> Some of the roads in the drainage serve as an access route to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness from Interstate 90. Use along the river and lake is primarily for fishing, boating, camping and hunting.

RANKING: Below Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The glaciated terrain is sloping to rolling with some rock outcrops, which is typical of most east slope Cascade creeks.

RANKING: Below Average.

<u>Fish</u> The anadromous and resident fish habitat is low to moderate. There is low potential for developing new runs and increasing the existing runs of anadromous fish due to the Easton Dam on the Yakima River. This river has been a spawning stream for a sensitive species, bull trout.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> There is average riparian and old growth habitat as well as average diversity in this drainage. There are spotted owls, Rocky Mountain elk and mule deer.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> Some prehistoric use was likely (as a hunting, fishing and travel corridor), although there are no known archaeological sites. Historically, there was low intensity mining and trapping.

RANKING: Below average.

Other Values. The area has no distinct features and ecotypes are common.

RANKING: Below average.

#### Conclusion

There are no above average resource values within the Kachess River and its adjacent forests. The occurrence of a dam causes a significant segment of the river to not meet the free-flowing criteria. The Kachess River <u>is not eligible</u> for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

# **TEANAWAY RIVER**

Total miles of river, which includes the three forks, is approximately 53.0 miles to the confluence with the Yakima River. There are 24.5 miles within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary of which 6.5 miles flow through private land. The remaining 28.5 miles outside the boundary are private lands. Approximately 0.5 miles inside and outside the Forest boundary flow through scattered tracts of State of Washington land.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	18.0	5,760
State of Washington	0.5	160
Private	34.5	11,040
Totai	53.0	16,960

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Teanaway River originates on National Forest land south of the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, and is paralleled by highways and roads for much of its length outside of the National Forest boundary. There are no major impoundments, however, there are some irrigation diversions on private land. There is considerable development along the river, with continuous signs of human occupancy below the Forest boundary. Vegetation consists of mixed conifer trees in the upper portions of the three forks; Douglasfir and ponderosa pine types change to ponderosa pine and grass-shrub types with grasslands and hay meadows in the lower portion.

The river is closely paralleled by State Highway 97, County Road 970, private roads and Forest roads. There are additional roads which follow the river or the three forks for short distances. The Middle and West Forks of the river have only limited roading.

Recreation is primarily camping, fishing, hunting, and scenery viewing from the State Highway and Forest roads. There are three Forest Service developed campgrounds in the North Fork drainage and four non-Forest Service recreation sites outside of the Forest boundary. There are numerous undeveloped sites used for camping.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The landform is dissected by ridges with steep to moderate slopes. Rivers and tributary streams have rapids and cascades with a meandering river bottom in the West Fork. The view is one of mixed conifers, scattered timber, with natural openings and some small to medium size rock outcrops.

RANKING: The main Teanaway, Middle and West Forks are rated <u>Average</u>. North Fork is rated <u>Above Average</u>.

<u>Recreational</u> The North Fork serves as an access route to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness from the south. There is both transitory use along the river due to the State Highway, and destination use primarily for camping, fishing, hunting, and boating by users from the Yakima and Tri-Cities area from the east and the Puget Sound area from the west.

RANKING: The main River, Middle and West Forks are rated <u>Average</u>. North Fork is rated Above Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The terrain is gently sloping in the lower portion with some rock outcrops and dissected portions in the upper reaches. This is typical of most east slope Cascade rivers at these elevations.

RANKING: Average.

Fish The anadromous and resident fish habitat is low to moderate.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> Much of the riparian habitat has been disturbed by private landowners in this high elevation, flat bottomed drainage.

RANKING: The main River and North Fork are rated <u>Average</u>. Middle Fork and West Fork are rated <u>Above Average</u>.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> There was some use by Yakima Indians for hunting, fishing and berry collecting expeditions. There are historic mining claims along the Middle Fork and North Fork as well as remnants of a Mine-to-Market road along the Middle Fork.

RANKING: Average.

Other Values This area is ecologically common to the Forest.

RANKING: Average.

#### Conclusion

While there are above average resource values associated with the Teanaway River and its adjacent forests, none are "outstandingly remarkable." The Teanaway River <u>is not eligible</u> for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

#### <u>ENTIAT RANGER DISTRICT</u>

#### MAD RIVER

Total miles of river to the confluence with the Entiat River is approximately 24.0 miles. All of the 24.0 miles are within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary. Approximately 2.0 miles are on private land.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	22.0	7,040
Private	2.0	640
Total	24.0	7,680

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Mad River originates along a divide between the Entiat and Chiwawa Rivers, and is free-flowing for most of its length. There are minor diversions and impoundments in the lower three miles. Topography ranges from a meandering stream at its upper end to a cascading stream in a narrow steep canyon at the lower end. Vegetation type ranges from open high elevation meadows through mixed conifer to Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine types.

The river is paralleled by trail #1409 for most of its length. The lower four miles are paralleled by Forest road #5700 to Pine Flat campground. Some land adjacent to the river has been modified by private land development, the 1970 fires, and timber harvest and roading. Access to the river is provided by Forest roads, spur roads and developed trails.

Recreation is primarily trailbike riding, camping, fishing, hiking and hunting. There is one Forest Service developed campground and several undeveloped sites used for camping. There is no known use of the river by boaters.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The drainage has mountain meadows with moderate slopes, to cascades with steep slopes and rock outcrops. There is a mixed conifer river bottom with some hardwoods.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Recreational</u> Use along the river is primarily trailbike riding, camping, fishing, hiking and hunting.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river rises in meandering meadows and flows through a steep, V-shaped canyon. There are numerous steep, cascading segments with rock outcrops.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> There are good pool-riffle ratios and the possibility exists that a sensitive species (bull trout) occurs in this drainage. There is average resident trout use and some anadromous fisheries.

**RANKING: Above Average.** 

<u>Wildlife</u> The area along the river is average riparian habitat with clearcuts and large burns of varying ages nearby. Mule deer and grouse are the most common species seen in this area.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The upper Mad River country was reportedly used by the Wenatchi Indians, who approached the area via Alder Creek. There was some early recreational use and sheep grazing in historic times.

RANKING: Below average.

<u>Other Values</u> There is at least one sensitive plant species in this drainage. The lower river area has been burned or logged in the last 50 years.

RANKING: Above average.

# Conclusion

While there are above average resource values within the Mad River and its adjacent forests, none are "outstandingly remarkable." The Mad River <u>is not eligible</u> for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

#### NORTH FORK ENTIAT RIVER

Total miles of river to the confluence with the Entiat River is approximately 9.2 miles. All of the 9.2 miles are within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary and all are on National Forest lands.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	9.2	2,944
Total	9.2	2,944

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The North Fork Entiat River originates east of the Glacier Peak Wilderness in the Entiat Valley and is free-flowing for its entire length. Topography ranges from a glaciated headwall area to a V-shaped valley, and then to a somewhat narrow canyon at the lower end. Vegetation type is primarily high mountain meadows, brushy areas, and mixed conifer.

The river is paralleled by trail #1437 for most of its length, except in the lower two miles where Forest access roads climb on both sides of the drainage. Some land adjacent to the river is modified through timber harvest and roading in the lower two miles. Access to the river is provided by Forest roads, spur roads and developed trails.

Recreation is primarily camping, fishing and hunting. There is one Forest Service developed campground and some undeveloped sites used for camping. There is no known use of the river by boaters.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The drainage is characterized by peaks, rocky areas, some cliffs, steep slopes, and meadows. The river has cascades and falls, mixed conifers and some old growth forests.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Recreational</u> Use along the river is primarily hiking, fishing, and hunting. The drainage serves as an access to the Glacier Peak Wilderness.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river rises in seasonal snowfields with mountain meadows and a V-shaped valley. It flows through a narrow canyon at its lower reach.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Fish</u> Entiat Falls blocks anadromous fish from using this stream and the use by resident fisheries is limited.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> The riparian vegetation has some old growth habitat but most of the habitat in the vicinity is about 100 years old as a result of past fires. Woodpeckers and spotted owls frequent this area as do mule deer.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> No known prehistoric sites have been identified. There was likely some early hunting and other backcountry use by the Entiat Indians. Historic use was minimal, with the exception of some small scale fur trapping.

RANKING: Below Average.

Other Values This area is ecologically common on the Forest.

RANKING: Average.

### Conclusion

While there are above average resource values within the North Fork Entiat River and its adjacent forests, none are "outstandingly remarkable." The North Fork Entiat River is not eligible for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

### <u>NACHES RANGER DISTRICT</u>

## **BUMPING RIVER**

Total miles of river to the confluence with the Naches River is 28 miles. All of the 28 miles are within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary and 0.5 miles pass through private land. Eight of these miles occur above Bumping Lake, and the remainder are below the Bumping Lake dam.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	24.0	7,680
Private	0.5	120
Total	24.5	7,800

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Bumping River originates east of the Cascade Crest in the William O. Douglas Wilderness. The river is impounded by the Bumping Lake Dam. It is free-flowing below the dam from Bumping Crossing to its confluence with the Naches River. There is also a free-flowing segment above the lake within the wilderness. Topography below the dam consists of a glaciated valley in the west, narrowing at the east due to volcanic formations. Vegetation consists of Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine types.

The river is closely paralleled by Bumping River Road No. 18 for most of its length. The lower 2.5 miles flows adjacent to the Mather Memorial Highway, while the upper 7 miles are within the wilderness. Access to the river is by State Highway, Forest roads, spur roads, and by trail in the wilderness.

Recreation is primarily camping and fishing. Scenery viewed from the State Highway and Forest roads is rated high. There are five Forest Service developed campgrounds and numerous undeveloped sites used for camping. Boating is limited to intermediate kayaking and rafting.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

**Scenery** The drainage contains snowfields, peaks rising above 5,000 feet, steep slopes, a meandering river course, cascading water, mixed forest river bottom, and old growth forest.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Recreational</u> The drainage serves as a major access route to the William O Douglas Wilderness from the east side. Use along the river is primarily for camping, fishing, hunting, and boating by users from the Yakima and Tri-Cities area from the east and the Puget Sound area from the west.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river rises in seasonal snowfields with meadows, similar to most rivers of the Wenatchee Forest; it is a typical narrow, steep river valley with cascading water.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Fish</u> The spring chinook and steelhead runs are low but the potential for these species is high. There is a good resident fishery. The sensitive species (bull trout) inhabits this river.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Wildlife</u> The mature, old growth and riparian vegetation is average for this area. Some common species are barred owls, Rocky Mountain elk, and mule deer. Bald eagles and peregrine falcons feed along the river.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The Yakima Indians used the river for fishing and backcountry access, and there are several known archaeological sites. There were historic water reclamation developments and the drainage was used by miners, loggers, fur trappers, and early settlers and recreationists.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Other Values</u> This area has some unusually high water tables that contribute to the dominance of western red cedar in the forest stands.

RANKING: Above average.

#### Conclusion

While there are above average resource values within the Bumping River and its adjacent forests, none are "outstandingly remarkable." The occurrence of a dam causes a significant segment of the river to not meet the free-flowing criteria. The Bumping River is not eligible for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

## LITTLE NACHES RIVER

Total miles of river to the confluence with the Naches River is 12.0 miles. All of the 12.0 miles are within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary and 0.75 miles are on private land.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	11.25	3,600
Private	0.75	240
Total	12.00	3,840

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Little Naches River originates east of the Cascade Crest and north of Naches Pass. The river has had straightening, riprapping and channeling over a significant portion of its length due to rehabilitation after flooding. Topography ranges from a broad glaciated valley to a narrow steep-walled canyon at the lower end. Vegetation types run from mixed conifer forest in the upper end, to Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine types in the lower reaches.

The river is paralleled for most of its length by the Naches Pass Road #19 which provides access to the river from State Highway 410.

Recreation is primarily camping, fishing and hunting, with many of the trails used by ORV's. There are four Forest Service developed campgrounds and eight undeveloped sites used for camping. There is no known use of the river by boaters.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> Terrain in the drainage is steep sloping to rolling, a cascading and meandering river course, continuous cover with mixed conifer forest and some old growth adjacent to the river.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Recreational</u> Use along the river is primarily camping, fishing, and hunting, with off-road vehicle use on adjacent trails.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river rises in seasonal snowfields with mountain meadows and glaciated valleys. It flows through a narrow canyon at the lower end which is typical of many rivers.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Fish</u> The spring chinook and steelhead runs are low but the potential for these species is moderate. There is a good resident fishery.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> There is some use for feeding by bald eagles and peregrine falcons. Mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk commonly use the river and tributaries.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> There was intensive prehistoric use, with several known archaeological sites, and one identified Indian cultural site. The anadromous fishery is important to the Yakima Indians. The drainage was a major historic travelway to Puget Sound for Indians, explorers, military expeditions, cattle drives and wagon train parties (Naches Trail).

RANKING: Outstandingly remarkable.

Other Values This area is ecologically common to the Forest.

RANKING: Average.

### Conclusion

While there are "outstandingly remarkable" values within the Little Naches River and its adjacent forests, the river does not meet the free-flowing criteria due to the extensive flood rehabilitation work. This included straightening and riprap in addition to modification of much of the stream bank. The Little Naches River <u>is not eligible</u> for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

## **NACHES RIVER**

Total miles of river from the confluence of the Little Naches and Bumping Rivers to the confluence with the Tieton River is 24.5 miles. There are 9.0 miles within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary of which 1.0 is private. The remaining 15.5 miles outside the boundary flow through State of Washington and private lands.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres *
Wenatchee National Forest	8.0	2,560
State of Washington	3.0	960
Private	13.5	4,320
Total	24.5	7,840

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Naches River originates at the confluence of the Little Naches and Bumping Rivers, and follows State Highway 410 for its entire length. There are no major impoundments, however, there are some irrigation diversions and one diversion dam on private land (less than 4 feet high). There is considerable development along the river and there are continuous signs of human occupancy. Vegetation consists of Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine types, changing to Ponderosa pine and grass-shrub types surrounding the lower portion.

The river is closely paralleled by State Highway 410, Nile Road, and the Old River Road. There are additional roads which follow the river for short distances. Access to the river is by State Highway, Forest roads, County road, private roads, spur roads and by trail.

Recreation is primarily camping, fishing and boating. Scenery viewed from the State Highway and Forest roads is rated average. There are four Forest Service developed campgrounds and some undeveloped sites used for camping. Boating includes rafting and kayaking.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The drainage is characterized by gently sloping to rolling terrain, rock outcrops and some basalt cliffs, and a meandering river course. Mixed conifer with hardwood types and some scattered old growth forest are found along the river.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Recreational</u> The drainage serves as an access route to Mt. Rainier National Park from the Yakima area. The river receives both transitory use due to the State Highway, and destination use primarily for camping, fishing, hunting, and boating by Yakima and Tri-Cities area residents from the east and the Puget Sound area residents from the west.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The terrain is gently sloping with some rock outcrops and basalt cliffs, which is typical of most east slope Cascade rivers at mid and lower elevations.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Fish</u> The spring chinook and steelhead runs are low but the potential for these species is high. There is a good resident fishery.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Wildlife</u> There is some use by wintering bald eagles and peregrine falcons. Mule deer and Rocky Mountain elk commonly use the river and tributaries. However, heavy human use and settlement lessens the value of wildlife habitat in the corridor.

RANKING: Below Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> There was intensive prehistoric use, with several known archaeological sites. The river supports a major anadromous fishery. There was early historic settlement and the drainage was a key area during military expeditions of the 1850's, particularly along downstream stretches. An historic CCC camp and National Register-eligible former Ranger Station compound are located within the corridor, although these do not derive significance from, nor contribute directly to, the uniqueness of the Naches River.

RANKING: Above average.

Other Values This area is ecologically common to the Forest.

RANKING: Average.

#### Conclusion

While there are above average resource values within the Naches River and its adjacent forests, none are "outstandingly remarkable." The Naches River <u>is not eligible</u> for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

## RATTLESNAKE CREEK

Total miles of creek to the confluence with the Naches River is 21.5 miles. There are 17.0 miles within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary of which 10.0 miles are within the William O. Douglas Wilderness. Of the remaining 4.5 miles outside of the National Forest boundary, 2.25 miles flow through State of Washington lands and 2.25 miles through private lands.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres*
Wenatchee National Forest	17.00	5,440
State of Washington	2,25	720
Private	2 25	720
Total .	21.50	6,880

<sup>\*</sup>Based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

Rattlesnake Creek originates within the William O. Douglas Wilderness and flows east to its confluence with the Naches River. The Creek is free-flowing for its entire length. Vegetation consists of mixed conifer, Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine types, changing to ponderosa pine and grass-shrub types at the lower portion.

The creek is paralleled by Forest Road #1500 for part of its length outside of the wilderness. There are additional roads which follow the creek for short distances, and the surrounding landscape is modified in places through vegetative manipulation during timber harvest.

Recreation is primarily hunting and fishing. There is one State of Washington developed campground and some undeveloped sites used for camping.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> The drainage has steep sloping to rolling terrain, rock outcrops, talus river gorges, and basalt cliffs; with some waterfalls and cascading water through the creek gorges. Vegetation is mixed conifer, with some old growth forest.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Recreational</u> The drainage serves as an access route to the east side of the William O. Douglas Wilderness from the Yakima area. Use along the creek is primarily for fishing and hunting by local users, with a high opportunity for solitude within the wilderness.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Geologic</u> The terrain is sloping to rolling with some rock outcrops and basalt cliffs, which is typical of most east slope Cascade creeks.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Fish</u> The spring chinook and steelhead runs are low but the potential for these species is high. There is a good resident fishery.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Wildlife</u> This area has spotted owl, Rocky Mountain elk, and mule deer. There are unique habitats such as cliffs and rims on one side of the river, and some deciduous woodlands habitat.

RANKING: Above Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> The drainage has high cultural values for the Yakima Indians. The major historic use was sheep grazing.

RANKING: Average.

Other Values There is a high variety of ecotypes in this drainage.

RANKING: Above average.

### Conclusion

While there are above average resource values within Rattlesnake Creek and its adjacent forests, none are "outstandingly remarkable." Rattlesnake Creek <u>is not eligible</u> for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

### TIETON RIVER

The total miles of river from the confluence of the Tieton River and Wildcat Creek to the confluence with the Naches River is 18.75 miles. There are 12.5 miles within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary of which 2.75 miles of the river are private. The remaining 6.25 miles outside the boundary flows through State of Washington and private lands.

Within the river corridor, the approximate mileage and acreage by ownership is:

Ownership	River Miles	Corridor Acres
Wenatchee National Forest	9.75	3,120
State of Washington	3.25	1,040
Private	5.75	1,840
Total	18.75	6,000

<sup>\*</sup>Acres based on an estimated 1/4 mile corridor on each side of the river.

The Tieton River originates east of the Cascade Crest in the Goat Rocks and the William O. Douglas Wildernesses. The river is impounded by two dams: Clear Lake and Rimrock. Flow is frequently manipulated throughout the year to meet downstream irrigation purposes. Fluctuating water levels detract from the naturalness of the river from Clear Lake to the Naches River. It is free-flowing below Rimrock Dam from Wildcat Creek to its confluence with the Naches River. The topography is a narrow canyon of volcanic formations through which the river has cut its way. Vegetation consists of Douglas-fir and ponderosa pine types.

The river is closely paralleled by State Highway 12 for most of its length. There are additional roads which follow the river for short distances on the south bank. Access to the river is by State Highway, Forest roads, spur roads and by trail in the wilderness areas.

Recreation is primarily camping, fishing and boating. Scenery viewed from the State Highway and Forest roads is rated high. There are five Forest Service developed campgrounds and numerous undeveloped sites used for camping.

Eligibility Determination - Description and Rating of Values

<u>Scenery</u> There are snowfields, mountain meadows, steep slopes to rolling terrain, with old growth forests above the dams. River gorges, and mixed forest river bottom typify the river below the dams.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Recreational</u> Highway 12 serves as an access route to the White Pass Ski Area from the Yakima area. There is both transitory use along the river from travelers of the State Highway, as well as destination camping, fishing, hunting, and boating by users from the Yakima and Tri-Cities areas from the east and the Puget Sound area from the west.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Geologic</u> The river flows from snowfields and mountain meadows in glaciated valleys above the dams. The river canyon has some steep rocky walls below the dams.

RANKING: Above average.

<u>Fish</u> Since the building of the Rimrock Lake impoundment the spring chinook and steelhead runs have been small. There is a good resident fishery.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Wildlife</u> The mature, old growth and riparian vegetation is average for this area. The species most commonly seen are Rocky Mountain elk and mule deer.

RANKING: Average.

<u>Cultural/Historical</u> There was intensive prehistoric use of the Tieton with settlements as far upriver as Rimrock. Included are several known archaeological sites and recorded pictograph localities of varying degrees of integrity. There are also historic irrigation and transportation developments of National Register significance within the drainage. Among the historic irrigation developments are the major impoundments of the river. An historic CCC work camp and a National Register-eligible former Ranger Station compound are located within the corridor, although these do not derive their significance from, nor contribute directly to, the uniqueness of the Tieton River.

RANKING: Above average.

Other Values This area is ecologically common to the Forest.

RANKING: Average.

#### Conclusion

While there are above average resource values within the Tieton River and its adjacent forests, none are "outstandingly remarkable." The occurrence of dams causes a significant segment of the river to not meet the free-flowing criteria. The Tieton River is not eligible for Wild and Scenic River consideration. Classification of the river segments and determination of suitability is not necessary.

# III. CLASSIFICATION AND SUITABILITY ANALYSIS

Based on the assessment of eligibility by an Interdisciplinary team (ID team), ten of the twenty rivers analyzed on the Wenatchee National Forest were considered eligible for designation under the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. It was determined by the ID team that the ten rivers were essentially free-flowing and had at least one "outstandingly remarkable" value. Ten rivers were determined not to be eligible because they did not meet one or both of the eligibility criteria.

Each eligible river or river segment was assigned to one of three potential classes, based on the condition of the river and the adjacent lands as they presently exist. These classifications are defined in the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act as follows:

- 1. Wild River Areas Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments and are generally inaccessible except by trail, with watersheds or shorelines essentially primitive and waters unpolluted. These represent vestiges of primitive America.
- 2. Scenic Rivers Areas Those rivers or sections of rivers that are free of impoundments, with shorelines or watersheds still largely primitive and shorelines largely undeveloped, but accessible in places by roads.
- 3. Recreational River Areas Those rivers or sections of rivers that are readily accessible by road or railroad, that may have some development along their shoreline and that may have undergone some impoundment or diversion in the past.

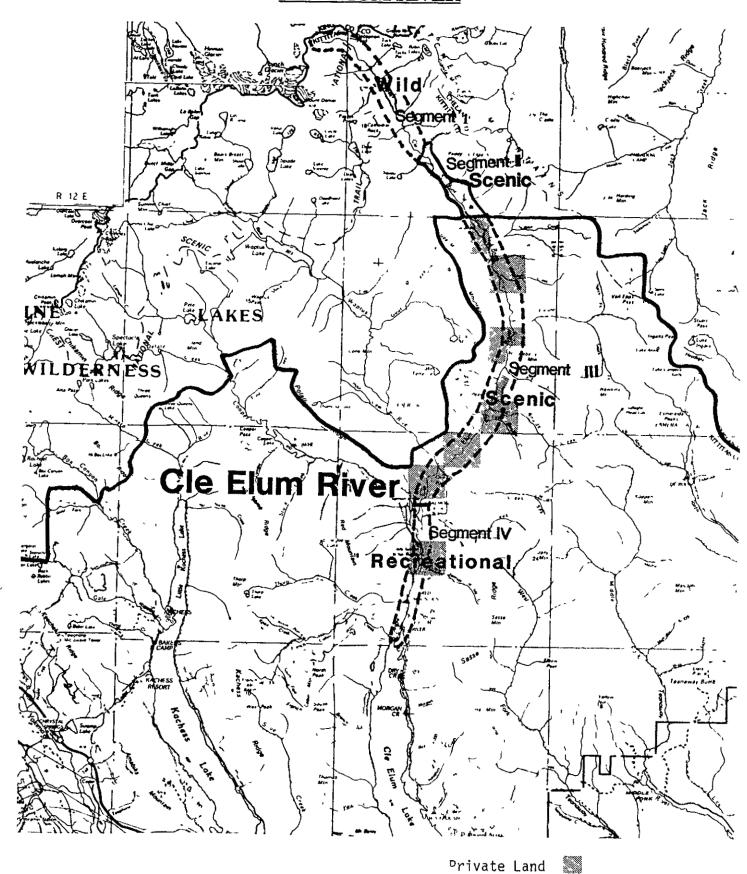
Following classification, a suitability analysis was conducted for each eligible river. This analysis provides the basis for the decision to recommend designation or nondesignation of an eligible river. The factors considered by the ID team in the determination of suitability of the eligible rivers and river segments on the Wenatchee National Forest were:

- 1. The characteristics that do or do not make the area a worthy addition to the system.
- 2. The current status of land ownership and use in the area.
- 3. The reasonably foreseeable potential uses of the land and water which would be enhanced, foreclosed, or curtailed if the area were included in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, and the values which could be foreclosed or diminished if the area is not protected as part of the System.
- 4. Public, state, and local governmental interest in designation of the river, including the extent to which the administration of the river, including the costs thereof, may be shared by state and local agencies.
- 5. The estimated cost of acquiring necessary lands and interests in land and of administering the area if it is added to the System.
- 6. Other issues and concerns identified during the planning process.

The State of Washington is currently conducting an assessment of eighteen rivers in the State which possess the natural, cultural and recreational values that would make them suitable additions to the Washington State Scenic Rivers System. Among these eighteen is the Wenatchee River, from its outlet at Lake Wenatchee to its confluence with the Columbia River. The Forest Service study of the Wenatchee River is confined to those segments of the corridor located within the Wenatchee National Forest boundary. These segments were determined to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System, and were recommended for further evaluation.

The results of the suitability analysis for each of the eligible rivers or river segments on the Forest are presented below, by Ranger District. In addition, a series of administrative and management guidelines are presented at the conclusion of the Appendix. These guidelines are proposed to guide the development of detailed management plans for those rivers on the Wenatchee National Forest that are Congressionally designated as Wild and Scenic Rivers.

# **CLE ELUM RIVER**



## CLE ELUM RANGER DISTRICT

## **CLE ELUM RIVER**

### Classification:

The Cle Elum River, from the headwaters to the head of the Lake Cle Elum Reservoir, is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River system. In the course of determining eligibility, four distinct segments of the river were identified, based on a combination of physical changes in the river character, and differences in landownership and development along the river corridor. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the headwaters in the NW 1/4 of Section 12, T.24N., R.13E. to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary in the NW 1/4 of Section 28, T.24N., R.14E.; an upper middle section (Segment 2) extending from the wilderness boundary to the private land boundary at the north section line of Section 3, T.23N., R.14E.; a lower middle section (Segment 3) extending from the private land boundary to the Salmon La Sac bridge in the NW 1/4 of Section 16, T.22N., R.14E.; and a lower section (Segment 4) extending from the bridge to the head of Lake Cle Elum.

Based on their highest potential classification, Segment 1 meets the standards for classification as a Wild River, Segments 2 and 3 as a Scenic River, and Segment 4 as a Recreational River.

## Segment 1

Segment 1, which is located entirely within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, is approximately four miles in length. Trail #1376 parallels the river through much of the segment, and the Pacific Crest Trail intersects and crosses the corridor in the NW 1/4 of Section 28, T.24N., R.14E., near the headwaters. A public road easement, held by Kittitas County, extends from the end of the existing road in Section 28, T.24N., R.14E., to Hyas Lake. This two-mile-long easement, which is nearly all within the wilderness, was acquired by Kittitas County in 1888 for a Mine to Market Road, but the segment was never constructed. The Forest is recommending that the County abandon the easement.

### Segment 2

Segment 2 is approximately two miles in length, and flows exclusively through National Forest land. Public Road #4330 follows the northeast side of the river through this segment, to the wilderness boundary. Other developments within Segment 2 are primarily small scale and recreation oriented. Hyas Lake Trailhead, at the end of the road, is a minimally developed campsite, with picnic tables, fire rings and pit toilet. One quarter mile south of here is the Deep Creek Trailhead, with similar facilities. At the lower end of the segment is the Fish Lake Guard Station and campground, the only formally developed site in Segment 2. There is also a remote automated weather station (RAWS) site in this segment, but the small building, sensory devices and antenna are situated out of view of the river.

### Segment 3

Segment 3 is 14 miles in length. The corridor here is a mix of National Forest and private lands, with approximately 71% of the acreage in private ownership, including timber industry lands as well as a block of patented mining claims. In recent years, a portion of the private timber lands within the corridor were sold as individual recreation residence lots. Public Road #4330 parallels the river its entire length within this segment. The road offers scenic views, and access to camping sites and other recreational opportunities along the river. Numerous (about 30) private homes and summer cabins are located on the private lands adjacent to the road and river.

A user-built campground is located near Scatter Creek, and at least three trailheads and several dispersed sites are situated along the corridor.

## Segment 4

Segment 4 is 4.5 miles in length. The ownership here is somewhat the reverse of Segment 3, with approximately 88% of the acreage being National Forest lands. County Road #903 parallels the river through the entire segment, offering access to scenic views and recreational sites. There are three Forest Service campgrounds in the corridor: Salmon La Sac with 120 units, Cle Elum River with 32 units, and Red Mountain with 11 units. Future plans call for the upgrading of the Boston Man site in the NE 1/4 of Section 32, T.22N., R.14E., to a developed campground. Also situated along Segment 4 are both the contemporary and historic Salmon La Sac Guard Stations, the latter building being listed on the National Register of Historic Places.

## Suitability:

## Suitability Factor #1 -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System

The Cle Elum River encompasses a mix of outstandingly remarkable qualities: spectacular scenery, diverse recreation opportunities, significant cultural ties with the Yakima Indian Nation, and a substantial mining history that includes a National Register property.

The area is typified by rugged peaks and steep slopes, combined with patches of wetlands, open meadows and thick forests of old growth conifer and hardwoods on the valley bottom and gentler slopes. The deep pools and cascading rapids, riffles and waterfalls attract heavy recreation use along the length of the river. As a gateway to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, the upper river corridor also experiences significant levels of recreation use, particularly hiking and dispersed camping.

### Suitability Factor #2-Current Status of Land Ownership and Use

Forty-five percent of the Cle Elum River corridor is in private ownership, with most of these holdings being located in Segment 3. Plum Creek Timber Company is the primary landowner in this latter segment, but in recent years, Plum Creek has sold portions of their property as individual recreation residence lots. If this trend continues, there may be increasing sales of small parcels along the river for recreation use or development.

Under the Kittitas County Zoning regulations, the Cle Elum River above Lake Cle Elum is zoned as Forest and Range. Minimum lot size restrictions range from 7,200 square feet to one acre, depending upon the provisions for water and sewer systems. Cluster development is permitted provided community or public open spaces are retained. Minimum lot width is 60 to 100 feet, with a 100 foot setback requirement. Such industrial uses as timber harvest, mining, quarrying, and gas and oil exploration are permitted. However, under the State Forest Practices Act as well as the State Shoreline Management Act, more restrictive uses would apply.

National Forest lands below the wilderness boundary have been managed under a visual quality objective of retention, which emphasizes the scenic and recreational values of the corridor. Although timber harvest has taken place, efforts have been made to maintain the river area in its near natural condition.

## <u>Suitability Factor #3</u> -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

There would be no change in management of the National Forest lands as a result of designation. Segment 1 is currently managed as wilderness, which emphasizes the primitive, undeveloped character of the environment. Segments 2, 3 and 4 are currently managed under the Alpine Lakes Management Plan as a scenic corridor. The objective of this allocation is to retain or enhance the viewing and recreation experience in the Cle Elum, with timber management activities designed to meet this goal.

Mining activity has been ongoing within the corridor since the late nineteenth century, with several placer and lode claims patented in those early years. Segment 1 is now withdrawn from mineral entry because of its location within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. However, Segments 2, 3 and 4 have been identified as being potentially valuable for coal, as well as for the occurrence of gold, silver, copper, chromite, iron and nickel. The corridor lands in Section 34, T.24N., R.14E., in Sections 2, 3, 14, 23, 26 and 34, T.23N., R.14E., and in Sections 4, 16, 28, 29 and 32 in T.22N., R.14E., were withdrawn from mineral entry under Powersite Classification No. 215, approved December 6, 1928. Public Law 359 of August 11, 1955, opened these powersite lands to mineral entry, but required, in each instance, that an analysis be done to determine the effects of placer mining on other resource uses when claims are located within the withdrawal area.

Scenic and Recreational classification would not affect continuing mining activity in the corridor. New claims and mineral leases are permitted, subject to 36 CFR 228, provided the activities are conducted in a manner that minimizes environmental degradation.

Designation might produce some effects on private lands in the corridor, particularly within Segment 3. The Scenic designation here would be compatible with the development of individual recreation residence lots. This classification allows for new structures, as long as these are modest in size, unobtrusive, and do not have a direct and adverse effect on river values. Concentrations of habitations may occur, but are limited to relatively short reaches of the river corridor. However, large scale developments or industrial uses that affect the significant river values, would have to be restricted.

Some scenic values in Segments 3 and 4 could be foreclosed if the river were not managed as part of the Wild and Scenic River System. Timber harvest on private land is controlled by State regulation. Under the State Shoreline Management Act of 1971, clearcutting is permitted to within 200 feet of the river shoreline, and selective cutting for commercial purposes within the 200 foot strip each side of the shoreline, as long as no more that 30% of the merchantable trees are harvested in any 10 year period. In addition, clearcutting incidental to preparation of the land for other uses authorized under the Shoreline Management Act may be permitted. The recently amended State Forest Practices Act further refines cutting practices within the riparian zone for the protection of wildlife habitat in these areas. In eastern Washington, a management zone of not less than 30 feet and a maximum of 50 feet is to be left on each side of the stream, the actual size of this strip being dependent upon the stream type. The zone is to be expanded where swamps, bogs, marshes and ponds occur adjacent to the water course. Selective logging is allowed within these zones, with the number of leave trees specified per thousand feet of shoreline. Road construction is also restricted within the riparian management zone. Beyond the narrow riparian strips established by the above laws, however, clearcutting, road construction and other facility development is permitted.

Although the intent of designation is to follow these existing State and County controls on private land, it is possible that designation would encourage greater sensitivity to the visual values within the Wild and Scenic corridor. In addition, designation would ensure protection of the free-flowing character of the Cle Elum River above the existing reservoir.

### Suitability Factor #4 - Public, State, and Local Governmental Interest.

There has been a great deal of public support for designation of the Cle Elum River as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System. Many have expressed the need to protect the outstanding scenic values and to maintain the excellent recreation opportunities that currently exist in the corridor. Several have expressed concerns for the present level of timber harvest along the drainage, particularly with respect to its effects on the wildlife, water quality, and visual resources of the drainage.

Kittitas County officials are strongly in favor of local control in the Cle Elum River corridor. They have indicated that the County would probably not support any proposal for inclusion of the Cle Elum River in the Wild and Scenic River System that affects their jurisdiction over private lands or their ability to riprap or carry out other erosion-control measures for the protection of their improvements. The only costs that would be shared in administration of the river would be those independent of designation, that are associated with existing County administration of the private holdings.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the Cle Elum River drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

If the Cle Elum River is included in the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, the Forest would rely on State and County controls for administration of private lands, to the extent that these provide adequate protection. The Forest would also recommend that a proviso be included in any Wild and Scenic legislation to allow riprapping for the preservation and protection of existing improvements.

# Suitability Factor #5 -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

There are no foreseeable plans to acquire lands or interests in lands along the Cle Elum River. Acquisition of easements from private landowners would occur only if key values were in jeopardy, and local government could not provide the necessary protection.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor and are primarily directed to National Forest lands. The following are the expected funding needs for the Cle Elum River for a total five year period:

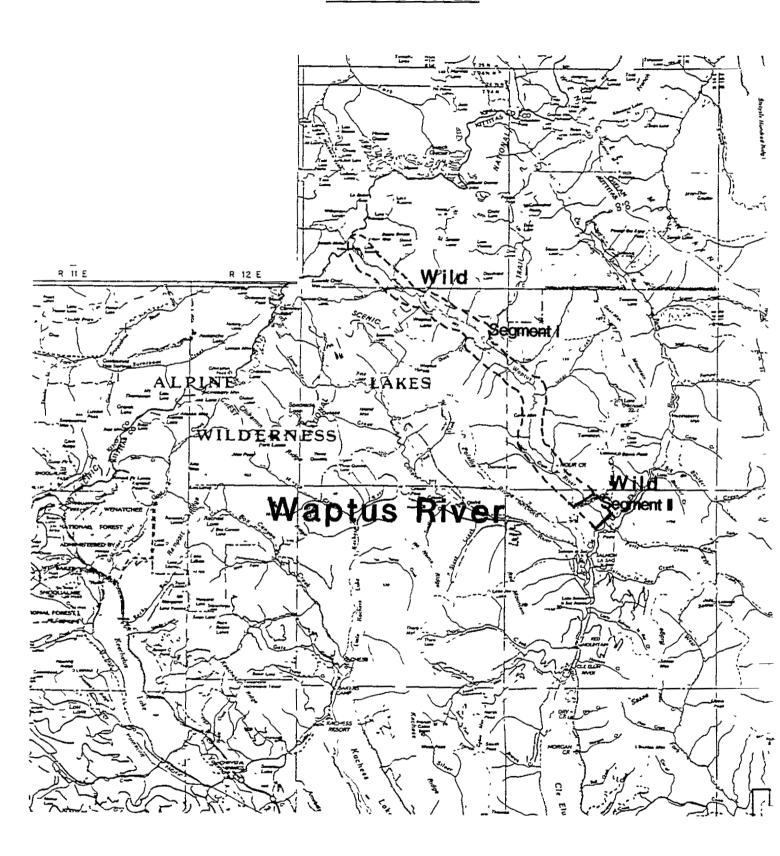
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration Costs of Implementation Development of Management Plan Development Costs	\$ 4,000	\$ 20,000 \$ 25,000 \$110,000 \$100,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$ 6,000	\$ 15,000
Total - First Five Years	\$10,000	\$ 270,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$9,000 annually.

## Suitability Factor #6-Other Issues and Concerns

No other major issues or concerns have been identified.

# WAPTUS RIVER



### WAPTUS RIVER

#### Classification

The Waptus River, from the headwaters to the confluence with the Waptus River, is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. In the course of determining eligibility, two distinct segments of the river were identified, based on the location of the corridor with respect to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the headwaters above Lake Ivanhoe, in the SE 1/4 of Section 29, T.24N., R.13E., to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary in the NW 1/4 of Section 4, T.22N., R.14E.; and a lower section (Segment 2) extending from the wilderness boundary to the confluence with the Cle Elum River in the SE 1/4 of Section 4, T.22N., R.14E.

Based on their highest potential classification, Segments 1 and 2 meet the standards for classification as a Wild River.

## Segment 1

Segment 1, which is located entirely within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, is approximately 12 miles in length. Trail #1310 parallels the river through two-thirds of the segment, and the Pacific Crest Trail intersects and crosses the corridor in the NE 1/4 of Section 3, T.23N., R.13E. At least four other trail systems intersect Trail #1310 from side drainages on both sides of the corridor. Above the Pacific Crest Trail, Trail #1362 provides access to within one half mile of the headwaters, and skirting Lake Ivanhoe before crossing the Cascade Crest at Dutch Miller Gap.

# Segment 2

Segment 2 is one mile in length. Within the northeast boundary of the corridor are the remnants of two former clearcuts and the roads that accessed them. However, these harvest units have since regenerated and both they and the roads are discernible on the slope above the river only through a slight change in the age class and texture of the vegetation.

### Suitability:

Suitability Factor #1-Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

Originating high in the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, this rugged, glaciated valley offers a spectacular view of the pristine, timbered landscape and adjacent snow capped peaks through which it flows. The river tumbles through two sizable mountain lakes and a series of cascades and falls, to its confluence with the equally scenic Cle Elum River. Old growth stands, interspersed with wet and dry meadow openings, offer a diversity of vegetation for viewing, particularly the latter with their profusion of wildflowers and bog-associated plants.

## Suitability Factor #2-Current Status of Landownership and Use

The entire corridor is National Forest, with 12 of the 13 miles currently being managed as wilderness. Within the lower mile, the corridor is managed for a combination of scenic travel and unroaded, nonmotorized dispersed recreation.

There is one placer claim located in Segment 1, and a set of four lode claims in Segment 2, all of which have assessment work completed in 1988.

### Suitability Factor #3-Foreseeable Potential Uses

Over ninety percent of the Waptus River is within wilderness, which emphasizes the primitive, undeveloped character of the environment. There would be no change in management along these upper 12 miles. Segment 2 is currently managed under the Alpine Lakes Management Plan as Scenic Forest, with an objective of retaining or enhancing viewing and recreation experiences. A small portion of the corridor is also managed for unroaded recreation. Since timber harvest is permitted within the Scenic Forest allocation, there would be a slight loss in timber production if this segment were classified as Wild.

Because Segment 1 of the Waptus River lies wholly within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, it is withdrawn from mineral entry. The single placer claim near Trail Creek was located after this withdrawal, and thus is not a valid claim. However, there could be a conflict in Segment 2 between the four lode claims that have been located here, and a Wild classification of the river. Future development of these claims would require confirmation of prior, valid existing rights to mine before any activity could be approved. No portion of the drainage is classified as an area of critical mineral potential. However, it has been identified as prospectively valuable for coal resources, and that portion of the corridor lying in T.23-24N., R.13E. is prospectively valuable for geothermal resources.

There are probably few values that would be foreclosed or curtailed if the river were not protected as part of the System. As mentioned above, all but one mile of the river is within wilderness, and current management in the lower segment recognizes the scenic and recreational values here. The greatest potential threat to river values would be in future diversions or impoundments of the river. Designation would ensure the protection of the pristine free-flowing character of the Waptus River.

## Suitability Factor #4-Public, State and Local Governmental Interests.

The public response to designation of the Waptus River as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River system has been positive. Many have expressed support for the recognition and protection of the special river values here, particularly with respect to the outstanding scenery, high recreation use, wildlife habitat, old growth stands, ecological diversity and water quality. There were no specific comments in opposition to designation of this river.

Kittitas County officials have been most concerned with how designation of rivers in general would affect their jurisdiction over private lands. However, there is no private land within the Waptus drainage.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the Waptus drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

# Suitability Factor #5-Cost of Acquisition and Interests

There are no private lands included within the proposed Wild and Scenic corridor of the Waptus River.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor. The following are the expected funding needs for the Waptus River for a total five year period:

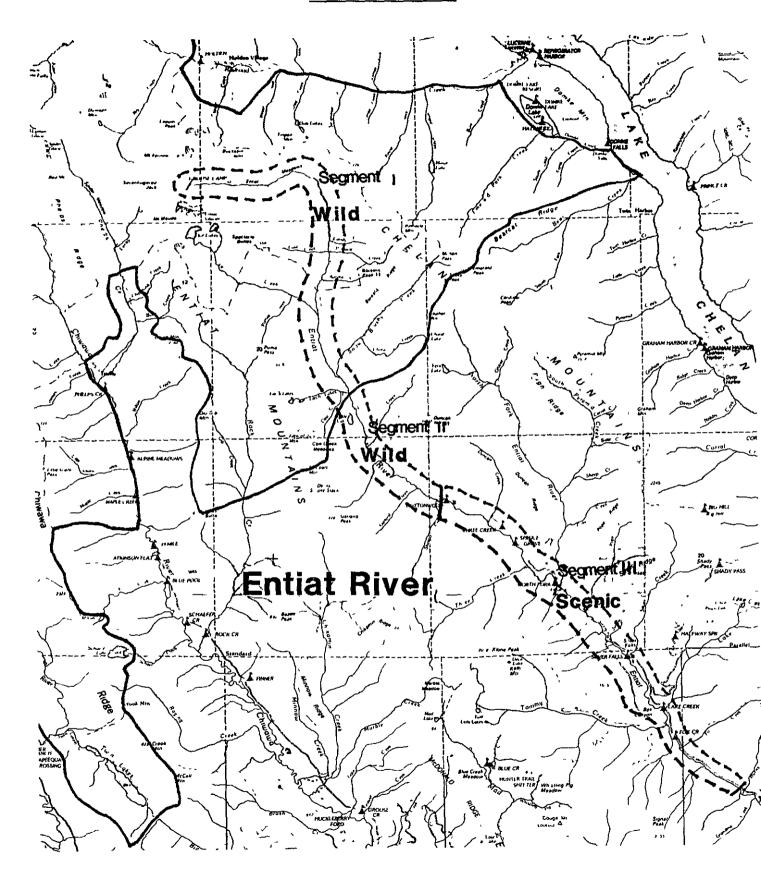
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration Costs of Implementation Development of Management Plan Development Costs	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000 \$ 5,000 \$ 25,000 \$ 5,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$ 2,500	\$ 10,000
Total - First Five Years	\$ 3,500	\$ 46,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$2,900 annually.

# Suitability Factor #6-Other Issues and Concerns

No major issues or concerns have been identified.

# **ENTIAT RIVER**



## ENTIAT RANGER DISTRICT

# **ENTIAT RIVER**

### Classification:

The Entiat River, from the headwaters to the private land boundary above Burns Creek, is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. This part of the drainage is exclusively comprised of National Forest lands. In the course of determining eligibility, three distinct segments of the river were identified, based on a combination of physical changes in the river character and the level of development along the shoreline. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the headwaters in the SE 1/4 of Section 25, T.31N., R.16E., to the Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary in the SE 1/4 of Section 27, T.30N., R.17E; a middle section (Segment 2) extending from the wilderness boundary to the Cottonwood Trailhead in the SW 1/4 of Section 7, T.29N., R.18E.; and a lower section extending from the trailhead to the private land boundary in the NE 1/4 of Section 29, T.28N., R.19E.

Based on their highest potential classification, Segments 1 and 2 meet the standards for classification as a Wild River, and Segment 3 as a Scenic River.

## Segment 1

Segment 1, which is located entirely within the Glacier Peak Wilderness, is approximately 12.5 miles in length. Access along the corridor is provided by Trail #1400, which parallels the Entiat River along its east and north bank to within one mile of the headwaters. At least six other trail systems intersect Trail #1400 from side drainages on both sides of the corridor, between the headwaters and the wilderness boundary.

## Segment 2

Segment 2 is four miles in length. As in Segment 1, Trail #1400 parallels the east bank of the river. A steel girder bridge across the Entiat River links this route with the Myrtle Lake Trail #1404 in the NE 1/4 of Section 34, T.30N., R.17E. Trail #1435 also intersects Trail #1400 on the east side of the river, in the NE 1/4 of Section 2, T.29N., R.17E.

Motorized bike use is presently permitted along Trail #1400 as far as the wilderness boundary. Long range plans anticipate terminating bike use one-half mile south of the wilderness boundary, at the junction with Trail #1404, and continuing motorized access up the latter trail as far as Myrtle Lake.

## Segment 3

Segment 3 is 15 miles in length. Access along the river is provided by both Forest and private roads. National Forest Primary Route #51, a double lane paved road, follows the east side of the river to the North Fork Campground, where it is succeeded by a gravel surface road to its terminus at Cottonwood Campground. Secondary Forest roads intersect the corridor one-half mile above Entiat Falls, just below the confluence with the North Fork Entiat River, at Jungle Creek where the Tommy Creek Road #5605 crosses the Entiat River, and approximately one mile above Lake Creek. There are also two road bridges across the Entiat: one at Cottonwood Campground, and the second in connection with the Tommy Creek Road.

The remaining developments in Segment 3 are related to recreation use. There are trailheads at Cotton-wood Campground (#1400 and #1429), North Fork Campground (#1434), and at Lake Creek Campground (#1443, #1423 and #1424), where a footbridge spans the Entiat. Developed camping/picnic sites are located at regular intervals along the east side of the corridor, and include Cottonwood Campground, Three Creek Campground (which is proposed for expansion as an ORV campsite, including construction of a bridge across the Entiat River for motorized use), Spruce Grove Campground, North Fork Campground, Silver Falls Campground, Lake Creek Campground and Fox Creek Campground. And finally, there are two recreation residence tracts encompassing a total of 17 recreation residences under permit to the Forest Service: the Riverside tract, approximately 1/4 mile above the Tommy Creek road bridge, and the Pope Creek tract, on both sides of Pope Creek near its confluence with the Entiat River.

## Suitability:

<u>Suitability Factor #1</u> -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

Originating in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, this steep, glaciated valley is bordered by extensive snowfields and alpine glaciers, high mountain peaks, and rugged slopes with large outcrops of granite and gneiss. The river plunges in cascading rapids, riffles and falls, to a meandering course in the broader valley of the lower reaches. A mixed conifer forest, interspersed with patches of old growth and natural openings, contributes to the pristine setting of the river.

# Suitability Factor #2 - Current Status of Land Ownership and Use.

The river corridor proposed for designation is located exclusively on National Forest lands. Major uses include recreation (fishing, camping, hiking, driving for pleasure, trail bike riding, snowmobiling, and cross-country skiing) and, below Garland Creek, a full range of timber management activities. The upper 15 miles of the river are managed as wilderness.

## Suitability Factor #3 -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

There would be a little change in the management of the National Forest lands as a result of designation. Segment 1 is currently managed as wilderness, which emphasizes the primitive, undeveloped character of the environment. This value would not be affected. Until the passage of the Washington State Wilderness Act of 1984, the lands in Segments 2 and 3 were managed according to direction outlined in the Chelan Unit Plan, issued in April 1976. This plan specified that the river corridor above Garland Creek be included as a study area for potential wilderness consideration. Below Garland Creek, the river was to be managed for a full range of commodities and amenities. The Wilderness Act released the area above Garland Creek from required consideration as wilderness, thus potentially opening it to a full range of multiple use activities. Designation as a Wild river in Segment 2 would preclude future timber harvest in the 320 acre area between Garland Creek and Cottonwood Campground. However, in the preferred alternative to the Forest Plan, this same area is proposed for allocation as unroaded, non-motorized southwest of the river, and unroaded, motorized northeast of the river. There would be no scheduled timber harvest in this portion of the corridor. Motorized trail bike use might be appropriate, even with a Wild classification, where current use is taking place and the adjacent allocation of the area is compatible.

With respect to mineral potential, Segment 1 is currently withdrawn from mineral entry because it lies wholly within the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Segments 2 and 3 are not encumbered by any mining claims. Furthermore, the area has not been identified as having potential for the occurrence of locatable mineral resources, nor is it classified as being prospectively valuable for leasable mineral commodities.

Under current management direction, some scenic values in Segment 3 could be foreclosed if the river were not managed as part of the Wild and Scenic Rivers System, unless timber activities follow a visual quality objective of retention. The greatest potential threat to river values, however, would be in future diversions or impoundments. Designation would ensure the protection of the free-flowing character of the Entiat River.

# Suitability Factor #4 - Public, State, and Local Governmental Interests.

There has been a great deal of support for designation of the Entiat River as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System. Many have expressed a desire to protect the pristine condition and integrity of the river, to provide for fisheries habitat and to ensure free-flowing, sustainable flows of water. There is also a segment of the public that hopes to restrict ORV use in the Entiat corridor through designation of the river.

Most of the opposition to designation has come from landowners in the valley, below the proposed Wild and Scenic boundary. Many of these people view designation as a threat to their property rights, and feel that present federal, state and local controls are adequate protection for the river values. They fear that the Wild and Scenic boundaries will eventually be expanded, that condemnation will occur to take private property for public use, that there will be possible restrictions on existing water rights, and that property values will fall. Some worry that there will be a loss in timber-related jobs, and that an increase in public use will be harmful to the resources within the corridor. There are also a great number of people who are concerned that designation of Segment 2 as Wild would effectively eliminate trail bike riding in the upper Entiat Valley.

Chelan County officials have indicated they could not support any proposal for designation of the Entiat River unless the County retains jurisdiction of private lands within the designated corridor (of which there are none in the present proposal). There would be no sharing in the cost of administration of the river, since there are no private holdings within the proposed boundaries. The County has also expressed the same concerns as the private landowners regarding the possible effects of designation on water rights for agricultural lands, and the potential impacts of river designation on downstream private lands. However, the Entiat River below the proposed boundary was determined to be ineligible for inclusion in the National System due to extensive straightening of the channel and other modifications of the waterway. Designation could thus not affect the private lands. In addition, all valid, existing water rights would be unaffected by designation.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the Entiat River drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

## Suitability Factor #5 -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

There are no private lands included within the proposed Wild and Scenic corridor of the Entiat River. Consequently, there are no plans to acquire lands or interests in lands here.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor and are directed to National Forest lands. The following are the expected funding needs for the Entiat River for a total five year period:

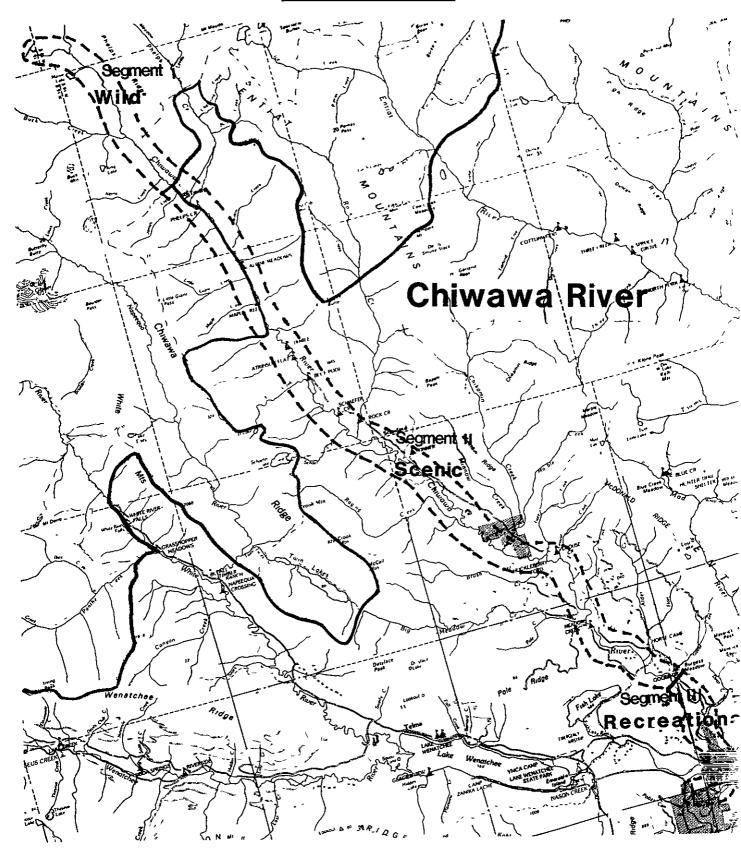
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration	\$4,000	\$ 16,000
Costs of Implementation	• •	\$ 20,000
Development of Management Plan		\$ 70,000
Development Costs		\$100,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$8,000	\$ 15,000
Total - First Five Years	\$12,000	\$231,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$8,600 annually.

## Suitability Factor #6-Other Issues and Concerns

Landowners in the Entiat Valley have expressed a major concern with respect to the amount of government regulation that already exists along the Entiat River. There are presently several overlapping National, State and County laws, regulations and executive orders that provide for protection of values within the river system. At the Federal level, these include the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Water Resources Planning Act, the Floodplain and Wetlands Executive Orders, the National Forest Management Act of 1976, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, in addition to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. At the State level, the Forest Practices Act and the Shorelines Management Act seek similar protection, and in Chelan County, there are further restrictions imposed by the Shoreline Master Program and the local zoning regulations. Several residents feel strongly that the present scope of government regulation is more than adequate to protect the river values. These same landowners also view designation as a threat to their individual rights and freedoms, and even though the eligible river segments do not include private land, they fear loss of their property through governmental acquisition of easements or interests in their lands.

# **CHIWAWA RIVER**



Private Land

### LAKE WENATCHEE RANGER DISTRICT

### **CHIWAWA RIVER**

### Classification:

The entire length of the Chiwawa River, from its headwaters near the Cascade Crest to its confluence with the Wenatchee River, is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. In the course of determining eligibility, three distinct segments of the river were identified, based on a combination of physical changes in the river character and significant differences in the level of development and land ownership along the river. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the headwaters in the NE 1/4 of Section 36, T.31N., R.15E., to the Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary in the SE 1/4 of Section 21, T.30N., R.16E.; a middle section (Segment 2) extending from the wilderness boundary to Goose Creek in the SE 1/4 of Section 13, T.27N., R.17E., and a lower section extending from Goose Creek to the confluence with the Wenatchee River in the NE 1/4 of Section 1, T.26N., R.17E.

Based on their highest potential classification, Segment 1 meets the standards for classification as a Wild River, Segment 2 as a Scenic River, and Segment 3 as a Recreational River.

## Segment 1

Segment 1, which is located entirely within the Glacier Peak Wilderness, is approximately five miles in length. The only visible developments along this segment are two foot trails and an unobtrusive footbridge. Trail #1550 parallels the east edge of the Chiwawa River corridor to within approximately 1 1/2 miles of the headwaters. A second route, Trail #1513, follows the east bank of the Chiwawa for the first 1/2 mile into the Glacier Peak Wilderness. This latter trail crosses the river by bridge in the NE 1/4 of Section 17, T.30N., R.16E., to begin the ascent up Buck Creek.

### Segment 2

Segment 2 is twenty-four miles in length. The west bank of approximately the upper six miles of this segment are within the Glacier Peak Wilderness. The remainder of the segment is also National Forest, with the exception of two parcels of private land: an undeveloped area of about 280 acres at Chikamin Flats, in Sections 20, 21, and 28, T.28N., R.17E., and the old mining townsite of Trinity, just south of the wilderness boundary. Chikamin Flats was logged years ago, but today is a naturally-appearing combination of meadowland and forest cover. There is heavy dispersed recreation use in this area during the summer months. Trinity is the product of late nineteenth century mining developments in the upper Chiwawa. Four houses, a powerplant and a large, non-residential structure occupy a short stretch of the corridor here, maintained by a year-around caretaker.

National Forest Primary Route #62 and Secondary Route #6200, which is a gravel-surface extension of Road #62, closely parallel the northeast side of the Chiwawa to within 1 1/4 miles of the wilderness boundary. Intersecting Forest roads take off from the east side of the Chiwawa at Minnow Creek, and at Phelps Creek, near Trinity. The valley road also provides access to trailheads at Chikamin Creek, Finner Creek, Rock Creek and at Trinity, where Trail #1513 provides continuing passage up the Chiwawa into the wilderness. There is one major bridge crossing of the Chiwawa in this segment by Road #62 a short distance above Goose Creek, in the NW 1/4 of Section 13, T.27N., R.17E.

Other developments in Segment 2 include Trail #1548, which extends parallel to Road #62 along the east margin of the river corridor between Deep Creek in Segment 3, and Chikamin Flats to the north. Ten developed sites are situated at intervals along the east side of the Chiwawa between Meadow Creek to the south, and the Trinity townsite to the north. At one of these, Atkinson Flat Campground, approximately 150 to 200 feet of log and rock cribbing has been installed along the shoreline as bank protection. Most of these campgrounds are small and do not detract from the essentially primitive appearance of the river. At Finner Creek, in the SW 1/4 of Section 6, T.28N., R.17E. are the remnants of the historic Rock Creek Guard Station. The Guard Station itself was destroyed by fire in 1977, but the Civilian Conservation Corps-era garage is still standing. And finally, the Chiwawa Summer Home site, a tract of eight, rustic-appearing recreation residences, is located south and west of the river on National Forest land, near the south boundary of Segment 2.

## Segment 3

Segment 3 is 6 miles in length. Most of the private land within the Chiwawa corridor is located along this segment, particularly in the lower half where only one small piece is National Forest. Agricultural, residential and recreational developments characterize the private lands here. Most are fairly light density, with the exception of Chiwawa River Pines in the W 1/2 of Section 31, T.26N., R.18E., which is a year-round residential subdivision. A second major development, Thousand Trails in the SE 1/4 of Section 31, T.26N., R.18E., is a popular private recreational camp, with trailer and tent units, clubhouse facilities and a swimming pool.

A network of County, Forest and private roads approach the Chiwawa in this segment. County Road #22 intersects the Chiwawa corridor at the Chiwawa River Pines subdivision, crossing the Chiwawa by way of a double-lane concrete bridge. Forest Roads #6100, east of the Chiwawa, and #6121 west of the Chiwawa, parallel the river from this point north to Goose Creek. An extensive array of private roads are threaded through Shugart Flats, just south of the confluence of the Chiwawa with the Wenatchee River.

There are also two developed campsites on National Forest land in Segment 3: Goose Creek Campground in the SE 1/4 of Section 13, T.27N., R.17E., which is currently being expanded and converted into an ORV campground with cooperative funding from Washington State; and the Deep Creek Campground, a small, rustic site in the SE 1/4 of Section 19, T.27N., R.18E.

There is one sizable water diversion in Segment 3, the Wenatchee-Chiwawa Irrigation Canal which takes off from an intake box on the south side of the Chiwawa River in the NW 1/4 of Section 30, T.27N., R.18E. The canal parallels the west edge of the river corridor for approximately four miles, before diverging to the Wenatchee River corridor. The Wenatchee-Chiwawa Irrigation District has held rights to divert water from the Chiwawa River since 1912. Other small irrigation diversions exist along the lower three miles of Segment 3, but none impede the free-flowing character of the Chiwawa.

# Suitability:

Suitability Factor #1 -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

The Chiwawa River is typified at its upper end by towering mountain peaks, extensive snowfields and imposing valley walls with numerous rocky areas. The river channel here is narrow and plunges downstream in frequent cascades and small falls, which gradually lessen in intensity as the river enters the broader, U-shaped valley of the mid- and lower segments.

There is heavy recreation use of the Chiwawa in the form of camping, fishing, hunting, hiking, and driving for pleasure by visitors from both east and west of the Cascades. In Segment 2, the

combination of moderate weather, diversity of recreation opportunities and ready access to all reaches of the river make this stretch one of the most popular recreation destinations in the Lake Wenatchee area. The upper drainage serves as the most heavily used access route into the Glacier Peak Wilderness east of the Cascades.

The Chiwawa is also notable for its anadromous fish population. Most other drainages in the upper Columbia River system have runs that are supplemented with hatchery-bred salmon. In contrast, the Chiwawa experiences a sizable, self-sustaining wild run of spring chinook each year, as well as a large run of steelhead.

## Suitability Factor #2 - Current Status of Land Ownership and Use.

Only 11% of the Chiwawa drainage is in private ownership. The majority of these holdings are concentrated in the lower half of Segment 3, and consist of fairly light density agricultural, residential and recreational developments. The exception is the Chiwawa River Pines subdivision. Current zoning regulations have established a minimum lot size here of less than 1/2 acre. The remaining private land (including the Thousand Trails recreational development) in Segment 3 is zoned for agricultural uses. The minimum lot size along the river is one acre, with no major residential subdivisions permitted. Shoreline works and structures are permitted if they do not substantially change the character of the environment, and are part of a water-dependent or water-related project that would be rendered impossible without the shoreline modification.

The approximately 280 acres of private land at Chikamin Flats in Segment 2 serves as a heavilyused dispersed recreation site. The current owners have been very tolerant of this use, and it is common to find over 100 people camped here on a summer weekend. The historic mining developments at the townsite of Trinity have served as a public attraction, and add to the value of this segment.

National Forest land below the wilderness boundary has been managed under a visual quality objective of retention, which emphasizes the scenic and recreational values of the corridor. Although timber harvest has taken place, the river area has been maintained in its near natural environment.

### Suitability Factor #3 -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

There would be no change in management of the National Forest lands as a result of designation. Segment 1 is currently managed as wilderness, which emphasizes the primitive, undeveloped character of the environment. Segments 2 and 3 are presently managed according to direction outlined in the Chelan Unit Plan, issued in April 1976. The plan identifies the Chiwawa River as a potential wild and scenic river, and specifies that management activities be designed to protect the wild, scenic and recreation qualities of the corridor until such time as a detailed study can be conducted. In addition, protection and/or enhancement of the fisheries habitat will continue to be an important part of management in this area. The Chelan County P.U.D. is in the process of developing plans for a spring Chinook fish rearing station near the mouth of the Chiwawa, that has been determined by the National Park Service to be consistent with the criteria established for the Recreational classification of this portion of the Chiwawa.

Off road vehicle use has been fairly heavy in Segments 2 and 3, particularly in the vicinity of Goose Creek, where the present campground is being expanded to accommodate ORV's. Scenic and Recreational River classifications both provide the latitude to permit, prohibit or restrict motorized travel. It is likely that ORV use will be allowed to continue unless those values for

which the river would be designated are threatened.

With respect to mining interests, the Chiwawa has a long history of mining activity. A mine-tomarket road was constructed up the valley, a halfway house was established at Chikamin Flats for miners traveling to the upper drainage, and the townsite of Trinity was developed adjacent to a series of mining claims, twenty-two of which were patented. Today, Segments 1 and 2 are still encumbered by numerous unpatented placer and lode claims, several of which are maintained by annual assessment work. Some of those within Segment 1 predate the wilderness withdrawal, and may have valid existing mining rights. The BLM has classified Segments 1, 2 and 3 as prospectively valuable for geothermal resources, and Segments 2 and 3 as prospectively valuable for coal. A Forest Service materials inventory has also identified at least four rock sources along Segments 2 and 3, which range in volume from 10,000 to 100,000 cubic yards. Designation of the river would not affect the future mining potential in any of these segments. Since Segment 1 is within an existing wilderness, new claims and leases are already prohibited. Preexisting claims with valid mining rights would be allowed to continue, subject to regulation (36 CFR 228). Scenic and Recreational classifications do allow for new mining claims and mineral leases, subject to the same regulation as above, provided the mineral activity be conducted in a manner that minimizes environmental degradation.

The effects of designation on potential future uses of the private land in Segments 2 and 3 are likely to be minimal, due to the level of classification proposed for the river, and because of the present zoning and land use regulations that are in place. The majority of the private land is in Segment 3, where a Recreational classification allows for small communities as well as dispersed or cluster residential developments along the river. New structures are allowed for both habitation and for intensive recreation use. Lands may also be managed for a full range of agricultural uses, to the extent currently practiced. The Residential-Low Density and Plain Rural District Zones that cover Segment 3 appear to adequately protect the values that would be recognized through designation of the river. One constraint that would be introduced through designation would be in the modifications permitted along the river banks and channel. Existing structures (low dams, diversions, riprap and other minor structures) would be allowed, but ordinarily new structures would be prohibited, as would development of hydroelectric facilities. Variances to the existing zoning regulations might also need to be restricted in order to ensure protection of the values for which the river would be designated.

The Shoreline Master Program classifications of the private land in Segment 2 will generally provide adequate protection of the river values here. Additional restrictions might be imposed to require screening of any new structures from the river, to limit concentrations of habitations to relatively short reaches of the corridor, to constrain shoreline modifications, or to prevent any direct or adverse effects on river values.

There are probably few values that would be foreclosed or curtailed if the river were not protected as part of the System, as long as management continues to follow a visual quality objective of retention. As mentioned above, current management recognizes the scenic, recreational and fisheries values within the corridor, and present zoning provides a reasonable level of protection on private land. The greatest potential threat to river values would be in future diversions or impoundments. Designation would ensure the protection of the free-flowing character of the Chiwawa River.

Suitability Factor #4 - Public, State and Local Governmental Interests.

The overall public response to designation of the Chiwawa as an addition to the National Wild and Scenic River System has been positive. Many have expressed support for protection of the outstanding river values here. The major concerns expressed are with management of the private

land in the lower reaches of Segment 3. Some property owners are alarmed at the potential for additional government regulation of their holdings, and seek reassurance as to the future status of the Wenatchee-Chiwawa Irrigation System water rights. Some have proposed that designation of the river begin above the Chiwawa River Pines subdivision, so as to eliminate the most densely populated portion of the Chiwawa from inclusion in the National system.

Chelan County officials have indicated they could not support any proposal for designation of the Chiwawa unless the County retains jurisdiction of private lands within the designated river corridor. The only costs that would be shared in administration of the river would be those independent of designation, that are associated with existing County administration of the private holdings. The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the Chiwawa River drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

If the Chiwawa River is included in the Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would rely on State and County controls for administration of the private lands. Valid existing water rights, such as those held by the Wenatchee-Chiwawa Irrigation District, would not be affected by designation.

## <u>Suitability Factor #5</u> -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

There are no foreseeable plans to acquire lands or interests in lands along the Chiwawa River. Acquisition of easements from private landowners would occur only if key values were in jeopardy, and local government could not provide the necessary protection.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor, and are primarily directed to National Forest lands. The following are the expected total funding needs for the Chiwawa River for the next five year period:

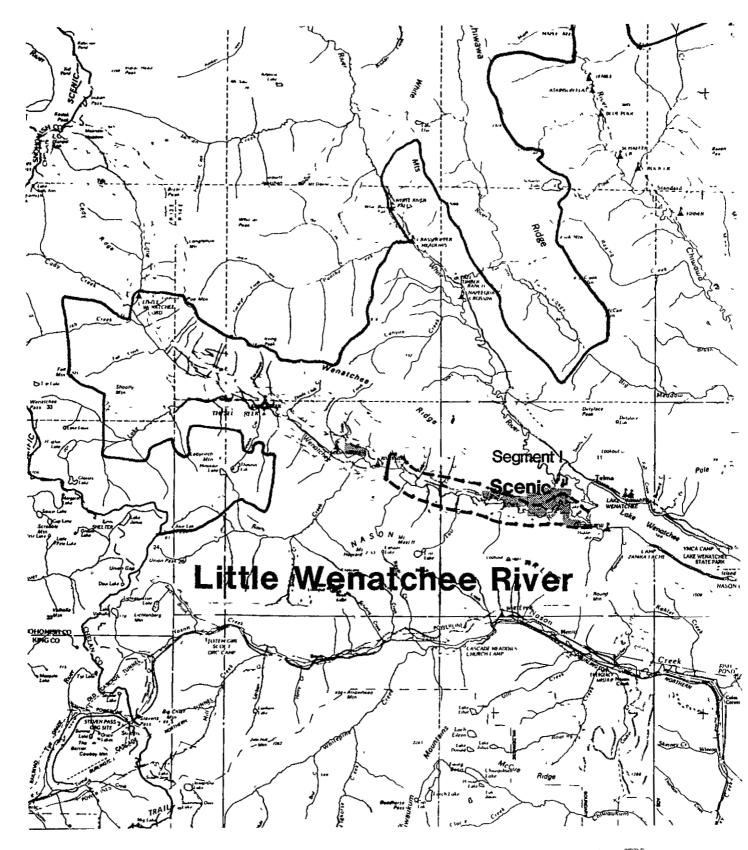
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration Costs of Implementation Development of Management Plan	\$ 3,000	\$ 12,000 \$ 15,000 \$ 65,000
Development Costs	\$50,000	\$100,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$10,000	\$ 15,000
Total - First Five Years	\$63,000	\$207,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$8,000 annually.

### Suitability Factor #6-Other Issues and Concerns

No other major concerns or issues have been identified.

# LITTLE WENATCHEE RIVER



### LITTLE WENATCHEE RIVER

### Classification:

The Little Wenatchee River, from the falls just below Riverside Campground in the SW 1/4 of Section 11, T.27N., R.15E., to the outlet at Lake Wenatchee, is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. Although the river above this point was included in the initial eligibility study, the lack of outstandingly remarkable features excludes the upper portion of the river from further study. Following the determination of eligibility, this lower section of river was identified as Segment 1, since it is now the only segment of the drainage under consideration for designation. Based on its highest potential classification, this segment meets the standards for classification as a Scenic River.

## Segment 1

Segment 1 is eight miles in length. The corridor here is a mix of National Forest and private lands, with approximately one third of the acreage being in private ownership. There are few developments along the segment. The north edge of the corridor is paralleled by Forest Road #6500, which approaches the river in places. The only existing structure is the Two Rivers Sand and Gravel Plant, situated on private land in the SW 1/4 of Section 15, T.27N., R.16E. The plant has an active quarry for the removal of floodplain gravels, but the operation, though visible from the river, does not physically intrude upon the river bank or channel.

# Suitability:

Suitability Factor #1 -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

The outstanding value in the Little Wenatchee River is the natural, successfully reproducing run of sockeye salmon. This river is part of only two remaining river/lake systems in the Columbia River drainage that still support a wild run of this lake-oriented, anadromous fish.

Suitability Factor #2 - Current Status of Land Ownership and Use.

Approximately 31% of Segment 1 is in private ownership, this being concentrated along the lower reaches of the river, close to Lake Wenatchee. Present Chelan County Shoreline Master program requirements here call for a minimum lot size that varies from 1/4 to one acre through most of the corridor. The regulations governing shoreline modifications range from prohibition except where necessary to protect or preserve the character of the environment, to permitting limited modifications.

The major private use of the corridor is the Two Rivers Sand and Gravel Plant. There has been substantial quarrying of the floodplain, which has had a noticeable impact on the visual setting through this portion of the corridor.

National Forest lands north of the river are presently managed to protect those qualities of the water and adjacent corridor that might qualify the Little Wenatchee for designation as a Wild and Scenic River. South of the river, the corridor is managed for a full range of timber management activities that follow, to the extent possible, a visual quality objective of retention.

There are no mining claims presently located within Segment 1, nor have any prospectively valuable, leasable mineral commodities been identified within this reach of the river.

## Suitability Factor #3 -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

A portion of the acreage in the lower mile of private land within the corridor is being subdivided and sold as recreational and second home sites, but because much of this land is flooded during spring runoff, no actual development of the sites has as yet been proposed. In addition, a Scenic classification here would likely be compatible with the development of individual recreation residence lots. This classification allows for new structures as long as these are modest in size, unobtrusive, and do not have a direct and adverse effect on river values. Concentrations of habitations may occur, but are limited to relatively short stretches of the river corridor. However, large scale developments or industrial uses that affect significant river values, would have to be restricted. This might have an effect on current clearcutting practices on private land, as well as on the Two Rivers quarrying operation (particularly any plans for expansion of the facilities). Finally, present county zoning regulations do allow for small scale shoreline modifications in places. Designation might further restrict these, or limit the modifications to those areas where they are necessary to protect or preserve the character of the environment.

There could also be some effect on the management of the National Forest lands along the south side of the river corridor. The north side of the Little Wenatchee River in Segment 1 is currently managed according to direction outlined in the Chelan Unit Plan, issued in April 1976. That document identified the Little Wenatchee River as a potential addition to the Wild and Scenic River System, and specified that management activities be designed to protect existing qualities of the waters and adjacent lands. However, National Forest land south of the river is presently managed under the Alpine Lakes Management Plan as General Forest. This allocation allows for a full range of timber management activities within view of the river, although these are to be shaped and blended to the extent practical with the natural landscape. Designation as a Scenic River would require that this portion of the corridor be managed for a visual quality objective of retention, with timber harvest activities designed to enhance the scenic values of the river.

Some scenic values could be foreclosed if the river is not managed as part of the Wild and Scenic River System. Quarry development on private land will continue to produce impacts to the shore-line area at the lower end of the corridor. Although the intent of designation is to follow existing State and County controls on private land, it is possible that designation would encourage greater sensitivity to the visual values within the Wild and Scenic corridor. In addition, designation would protect the free-flowing character of this eight mile stretch of the Little Wenatchee River.

### Suitability Factor #4 - Public, State and Local Governmental Interests.

The overall public response to designation of the Little Wenatchee River as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System has been positive. Many people expressed a desire to see the entire river designated (although only the lowest segment is eligible) in order to keep the present corridor unmodified. There was serious concern expressed for the protection of the sockeye spawning habitat. Mention was also made of the scenic and recreational aspects of the river, the diversity of habitats, the old growth stands in the upper stretches, and the extent and complexity of riparian communities near Lake Wenatchee. The only negative response from the public was directed to the level of classification, with one individual proposing recreational rather than scenic as the highest potential classification of the Little Wenatchee.

Chelan County officials have indicated they could not support any proposal for designation of the Little Wenatchee River unless the County retains jurisdiction of private lands within the designated river corridor. The only costs that would be shared in administration of the river would be those independent of designation, that are associated with existing County administration of the private holdings.

There were no comments from the State specifically directed to designation of the Little Wenatchee.

## Suitability Factor #5 -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

There are no foreseeable plans to acquire lands or interests in lands along the Little Wenatchee River. Acquisition of easements from private landowners would occur only if key values were in jeopardy, and local government could not provide the necessary protection.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor and are primarily directed to National Forest lands. The following are the expected funding needs for the Little Wenatchee River for a total five year period:

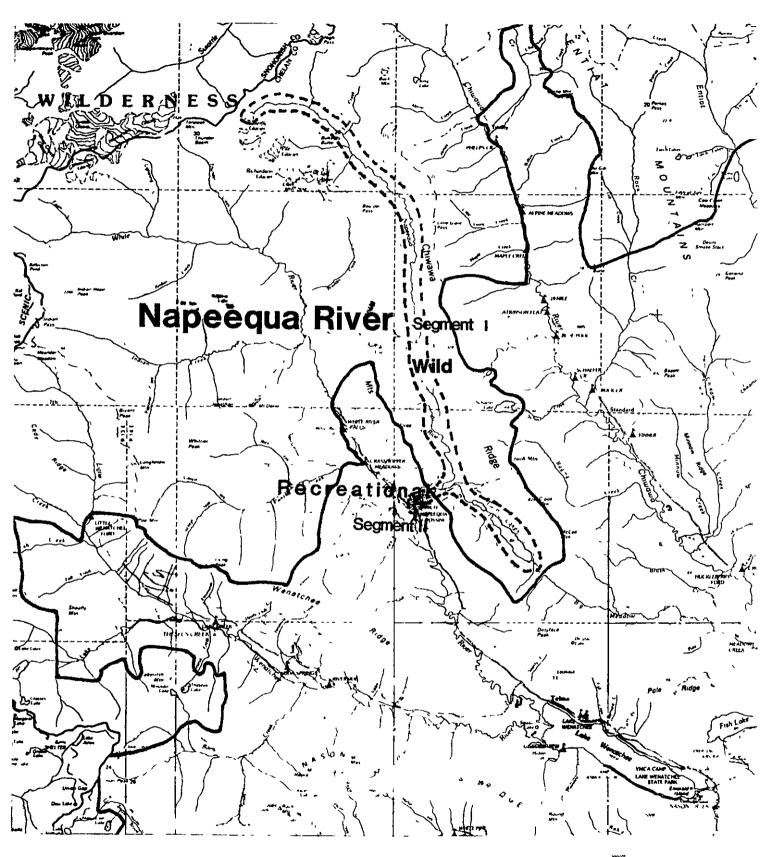
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration Costs of Implementation Development of Management Plan Development Costs	\$300	\$ 3,000 \$ 5,000 \$30,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$500	\$ 3,000
Total - First Five Years	\$800	\$41,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$1,400 annually.

Suitability Factor #6 Other Issues and Concerns

No other major issues or concerns have been identified.

# **NAPEEQUA RIVER**



## NAPEEQUA RIVER

#### Classification:

The entire length of the Napeequa River, from the headwaters near the Cascade Crest to the confluence with the White River, is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. In the course of determining eligibility, two distinct segments of the river were identified, based on a combination of physical changes in the river character, and differences in landownership and the level of development along the corridor. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the headwaters in the SW 1/4 of Section 21, T.30N., R.15E., to the Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary in the NW 1/4 of Section 17, T.28N., R.16E., and including the Twin Lakes Creek tributary; and a lower section (Segment 2) extending from the wilderness boundary to the confluence with the White River.

Based on their highest potential classification, Segment 1 meets the standards for classification as a Wild River, and Segment 2 as a Recreational River.

## Segment 1

Segment 1, which includes the one mile stretch of Twin Lakes Creek, is approximately 15 miles in length. Trail #1518, which drops into the Napeequa via Little Giant Pass, parallels the river for a distance of four miles. Trail #1562 crosses the Napeequa in the NW 1/4 of Section 36, T.30N., R.15E., as it begins the ascent to Boulder Pass. The Twin Lakes Trail parallels Twin Lakes Creek in this segment, its full length to Twin Lakes.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife also uses Twin Lakes as a cutthroat trout rearing station. Improvements include a rustic cabin and associated structures, boat dock, board walks, and fish traps and holding pens under the surface of the lake. This long established use (eggs have been taken since 1916 and the present cabin was constructed about 1949) was recognized during legislative discussions leading to expansion of the Glacier Peak Wilderness in 1984. Although the area was added to the wilderness, this use, including operation of a motorboat, was allowed to continue. Use is periodic and, with the exception of the specific site, does not detract from the primitive setting here.

#### Segment 2

Segment 2 is one mile in length and flows almost exclusively through private land. There has been substantial development of the private land, including the Tall Timber Ranch, a Presbyterian Church facility which is used as a youth camp and for conferences, retreats, and similar functions; and the Tall Timber Home Owners Association subdivision. This latter development, which is located south of the river in the SE 1/4 of Section 18, T.28N., R.16E., consists of 53 lots, approximately half of which have been developed as summer homes and trailer sites.

The only Forest Service improvement in this segment is the Twin Lakes trailhead, which is adjacent to the confluence of the Napeequa with the White River. The trail approaches the southeast bank of the Napeequa near the section line between Sections 18 and 17, T.28N., R.17E., paralleling it from this point into the wilderness.

The White River Road #6400, which follows the east bank of the White River, crosses the Napeequa near its confluence by way of a concrete bridge. There are also several short, private road segments accessing the Tall Timber Ranch, and the above mentioned recreation residence lots.

Riprap has been installed near the confluence of the Napeequa with the White River as well as in the vicinity of the Tall Timber Homeowners Association recreation residence subdivision, to protect the developments here. There are no other shoreline modifications in this segment.

## Suitability:

Suitability Factor #1 -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

The scenic and geologic features of the Napeequa corridor are outstandingly remarkable. The river flows through a narrow, glaciated valley characterized by towering mountain peaks, impressive alpine glaciers, extensive snowfields, extremely steep slopes, rugged granitic outcrops, and a vegetative cover marked by scattered old growth, hardwoods, and interspersed meadow openings. The watercourse tumbles through this valley in a series of waterfalls, cascades and slow meanders.

Suitability Factor #2 - Current Status of Land Ownership and Use.

All of Segment 1 is National Forest and is currently managed as wilderness.

About 98 per cent of the land in the one mile stretch of Segment 2 is privately owned. This includes the Tall Timber Ranch and the Tall Timber Home Owners Association subdivision. Under the Chelan County Shoreline Master Program, the area is designated as Natural Environment, the most restrictive of the four shoreline classifications. The minimum lot size is one acre; residences are confined to single family units which must blend, to the extent possible, with their surroundings; minimum river frontage is 200 feet; and shoreline modifications such as diversions, retaining walls and riprap are prohibited except where necessary to protect or preserve the character of the environment.

## Suitability Factor #3 -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

There would be no change in management of the National Forest lands as a result of designation. Segment 1 is currently managed as wilderness, which emphasizes the primitive, undeveloped character of the environment. With respect to the fish rearing facility at Twin Lakes, designation of the Twin Lakes Creek tributary of the Napeequa as Wild would be no more restrictive than the current wilderness designation. In fact, Wild River standards allow for structures and activities associated with fisheries enhancement projects, as long as these do not impact the values for which the river is being designated. Only two percent of the corridor in Segment 2 is National Forest. A portion of this area is occupied by the Twin Lakes Trail, which was relocated in 1978 to bypass private property along the river.

Because Segment 1 of the Napeequa River lies wholly within the Glacier Peak Wilderness, it is withdrawn from mineral entry. Segment 2 is not encumbered by any mining claims. Furthermore, the area has not been identified as having potential for the occurrence of locatable mineral resources, nor is it classified as being prospectively valuable for leasable mineral commodities.

The effects of designation on potential future uses of the private land in Segment 2 are likely to be minimal, due both to the level of classification proposed for this stretch of the river, and because of the present zoning and land use regulations that are in place. A Recreational classification allows for dispersed or cluster residential developments (including subdivisions) along the river. New structures are allowed for both habitation and for intensive recreation use. Lands may also be

managed for a full range of agricultural uses, to the extent currently practiced. The Natural Environment designation that covers Segment 2 through the County Shoreline Master Program, appears to adequately protect the values that would be recognized through Wild and Scenic designation of the Napeequa. However, variances to the existing county zoning regulations might need to be restricted in order to ensure protection of these values. Every effort would be made to retain the existing patterns of land use and ownership, provided the uses remain consistent with the purposes of the act. Acquisition of easements from private landowners would occur only if key values were in jeopardy, and local government could not provide the necessary protection.

There are probably few values that would be foreclosed or curtailed if the river were not protected as part of the System. As mentioned above, all but one mile of the river is within wilderness, and present zoning provides protection on private land. The greatest potential threat to river values would be in future diversions or impoundments of the river. Designation would ensure the protection of the free-flowing character of the Napeequa River.

## Suitability Factor #4 - Public, State and Local Governmental Interests.

The overall public response to designation of the Napeequa River as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System has been positive, especially with respect to that portion above the wilderness boundary. Many have expressed support for the recognition and protection of the outstanding river values here, particularly the unique geological characteristics and the pristine beauty of the setting. The major concerns expressed are with designation of Segment 2, because of the extent of private land here. Many of the landowners feel that designation would only increase the governmental restrictions on their property and curtail future development, that present county zoning regulations are adequate to protect the river values, and that designation would create potential security problems as a result of increased public use and access in the area.

Chelan County officials have indicated they could not support any proposal for designation of the Napeequa River unless the County retains jurisdiction of private lands within the designated river corridor. The only costs that would be shared in administration of the river would be those independent of designation, that are associated with existing County administration of the private holdings. The County has also expressed a verbal concern regarding the possible need for riprap to protect improvements.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the Napeequa River drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

If the Napeequa River is included in the Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would rely on State and County controls for administration of the private lands. The Forest would also recommend that a proviso be included in any Wild and Scenic legislation to allow riprapping for the preservation and protection of existing improvements.

# Suitability Factor #5 -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

There are no foreseeable plans to acquire lands or interests in lands along the Napeequa River. Acquisition of easements from private landowners would occur only if key values were in jeopardy, and local government could not provide the necessary protection.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor and are primarily directed to National Forest lands. The following are the expected funding needs for the Napeequa River for a total five year period:

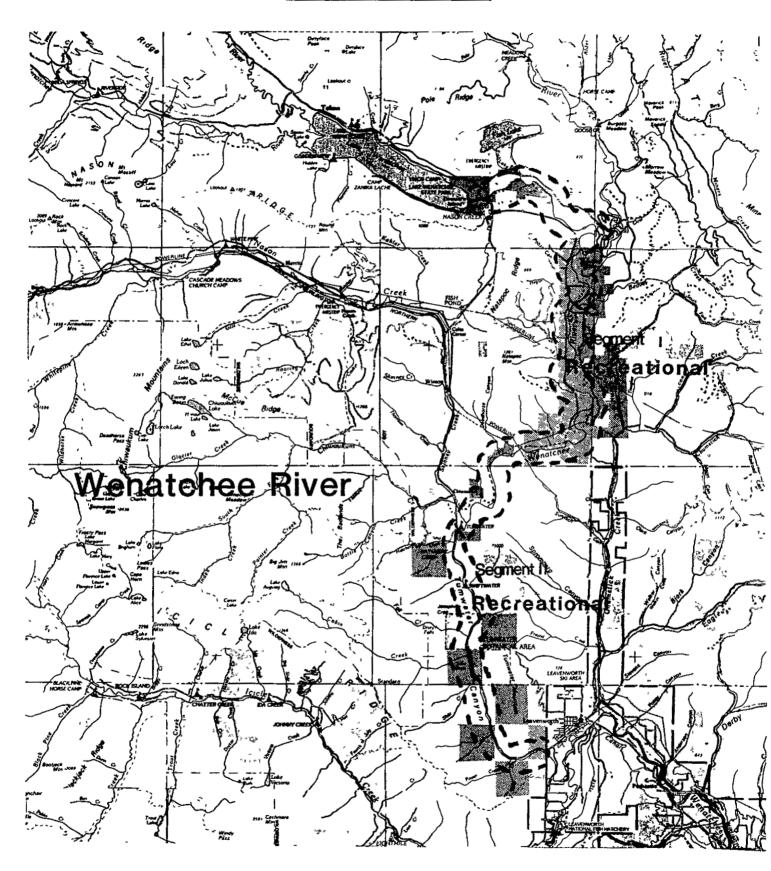
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration Costs of Implementation Development of Management Plan Development Costs	\$1,000	\$ 1,000 \$ 5,000 \$30,000 \$ 5,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$2,500	\$10,000
Total - First Five Years	\$3,500	\$51,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$2,900 annually.

## Suitability Factor #6-Other issues and concerns

No other major issues or concerns have been identified.

# WENATCHEE RIVER



### WENATCHEE RIVER

#### Classification:

The upper thirty miles of the Wenatchee River, from its source at Lake Wenatchee to the mouth of Icicle Creek near the town of Leavenworth, was determined to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. However, the Forest Service confined its study to the corridor between Lake Wenatchee and the Forest boundary, a total distance of twenty-eight miles.

In the course of determining eligibility, two distinct segments of the river were identified, based on a combination of the physical changes in the river character and differences in land ownership and level of development. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the outlet of Lake Wenatchee in the SW 1/4 of Section 28, T.27N., R.17E., to Tumwater Campground in the SW 1/4 of Section 9, T.25N., R.17E., and a lower section (Segment 2) extending from the campground to the Forest boundary in the SW 1/4 of Section 11, T.24N., R.17E. Both segments meet the standards for classification as a Recreational River.

#### Segment 1

Segment 1 is approximately 21 miles in length, with the river flowing through private or state land for about 13 of these miles. The non-Federal holdings include the Lake Wenatchee State Park, three private subdivisions (Chiwawa River Pines, Alpine Acres and Ponderosa Estates), the small community of Plain, several residences and cabins not associated with the subdivisions or town of Plain, two county gravel pits (at Plain and at Shugart Flats), and scattered agricultural and timber land. Tumwater Campground is the only developed Forest Service recreation site currently existing in this segment of the river, although there are proposals for two additional Forest Service campgrounds closer to Lake Wenatchee. There are also a number of dispersed camping sites along the river on National Forest land in Segment 1.

Transportation routes providing access to the Wenatchee River in this segment include State Highway 209, which provides intermittent access to the river between its outlet at Lake Wenatchee and its intersection with the highway near the community of Plain; State Highway 207, which crosses the river near the outlet of Lake Wenatchee; the Wenatchee River Road, which closely parallels the north side of the river between the community of Plain and Tumwater Campground; and the Camp 12 Road, which traverses the corridor east of the river from Plain southward a distance of four miles. There are also numerous short road segments within the corridor between Lake Wenatchee and Tumwater Canyon, which serve as private access routes and driveways.

In addition, there are four major bridges crossing the river in connection with the highways: the U.S. Highway 2 bridge at Tumwater Canyon, the State Highway 207 bridge at Lake Wenatchee, the State Highway 209 bridge at Plain, and the Wenatchee River Road bridge, also at Plain.

Burlington Northern Railroad, which crosses the river in the SE 1/4 of Section 25, T.26N., R.17E., extends parallel to the northern boundary of the corridor for approximately two miles. Except for the bridge, the line is not visible from the river. The Wenatchee-Chiwawa Irrigation Canal, which originates in the Chiwawa drainage, parallels Segment 1 for approximately 1 1/2 miles before crossing to the west bank of the river via the old Wenatchee River road bridge at Plain. And finally, a BPA overhead power-line spans the river in the NW 1/4 of Section 24, T.26N., R.17E.

## Segment 2

Segment 2, the Tumwater Canyon stretch, is 7 miles in length. Approximately two of these miles are in private ownership, most of this currently held by Longview Fibre. The remainder of the private land includes a few residences along the shoreline, and a candy/gift shop situated midway through the canyon on Lake Jolanda.

E-81

U.S. Highway 2, a major cross-state route, parallels and is in view of the river throughout this segment. Recreation developments include the Swiftwater Picnic Area and a few dispersed, camping sites. There is also a Forest Service summer home tract, with seven recreation residences, situated west and above the river.

There is one existing impoundment in Segment 2, the Tumwater Dam, a sixteen foot high concrete structure in the SE 1/4 of Section 33, T.25N., R.17E. With the exception of the dam itself, there are no longer any water diversion facilities at the site. The river is essentially unimpeded today (it spills freely over the dam), and a fish ladder was recently reconstructed to allow more efficient passage of salmon and steelhead. Also associated with the dam is the old penstock grade, which once extended from the dam to the former powerhouse site in the SW 1/4 of Section 33, T.25N., R.17E. The penstock was removed years ago, but the grade is still visible along the west edge of the river for a distance of approximately two miles. Today, the grade is occupied by a Chelan P.U.D. overhead powerline. In Section 10, the penstock bridge, which originally transported the penstock across the river to the power house site on the east bank, is still standing. This bridge is on the National Register of Historic Places as a result of its association with early Great Northern Railroad history.

About one half mile above the mouth of Tumwater Canyon, on the south side of the river, is an old concrete diversion box and remnants of a canal. These facilities were built by the Leavenworth Fish Hatchery, but are no longer in use.

## Suitability:

Suitability Factor #1 -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

The Wenatchee River drainage ranges from gently rolling, forested terrain interspersed with open meadows in the vicinity of Lake Wenatchee, to spectacular cliffs, enormous boulders, craggy outcrops and cascading rapids through Tumwater Canyon. White water conditions in late spring attract boating, kayaking and rafting use above the canyon, easy highway access provides outstanding scenery viewing, and there is heavy developed and dispersed recreation use throughout the summer months. The corridor falls within the traditional fishing grounds of the Wenatchi Indians, and today still experiences substantial runs of steelhead, sockeye salmon, and spring and fall chinook salmon. This portion of the river system also contains numerous archaeological sites, including the only known petroglyph site on the Forest. Finally, Tumwater Canyon is one of only two locations known where a small population of the Hackelia venusta plant occurs.

## Suitability Factor #2 - Current Status of Land Ownership and Use.

Ownership throughout Segment 1 is quite complex, alternating between State and National Forest lands, private subdivisions, and individual private residences, farmlands, and timberland. Approximately 68% of the corridor in this segment is non-Federal, or a mix of National Forest and non-Federal land. Because of these ownership patterns, the river here is characterized by stretches of undeveloped meadowland, interspersed with a forest cover of mixed conifers, some agricultural hay fields, and heavily developed clusters of residences and cabin sites. There may be some further development of what is currently agricultural land near the community of Plain in the near future.

The majority of residents and property owners along Segment 1 wish to preserve the residential and agricultural image of the area. They favor limited growth and development, and recognize that the natural scenic beauty, open space outdoor recreation and water resources are the most valuable assets of the area. With this in mind, the Upper Wenatchee Valley Comprehensive Plan was completed by a Citizens Advisory Committee appointed by the Chelan County Commissioners, in 1988. This plan recommended a Plain Rural District zoning designation for most of the private land here, which specifies low density residential and agricultural uses. A maximum density of one unit per two acres is permitted, except in those shoreline areas where a density of one unit per acre is considered appropriate. Minimum frontage along the river is 200 feet. The plan also provides for open, undeveloped land in areas of significant scenic beauty. Shoreline works and structures are permitted if they do not substantially change the character of the environment and are part of a water-dependent or water-related project.

About 25% of Segment 2 is in private ownership, most of this belonging to Longview Fibre. However, a land exchange is underway that will eventually transfer ownership of the Longview Fibre holdings within the corridor to the Forest Service. A small candy/gift shop is located about midway through the canyon, and a few private recreational residences are situated in this stretch.

## Suitability Factor #3 -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

There would be no change in management of the National Forest lands as a result of designation. Segment 1 is currently managed according to direction outlined in the Chelan Unit Plan, issued in April 1976. The plan specifies that management activities be constrained to protect the wild, scenic and recreation qualities of the waterway and an undefined strip of adjacent land. Segment 2 is presently managed under the Alpine Lakes Management Plan as a Special Scenic Area. Under this direction, any commercial forest land outside the existing highway corridor is placed in the unregulated timber component, with timber harvest permitted only where it will enhance or protect the special values here. In addition, a special botanical area was first established in Tumwater Canyon in 1938 to protect the special Lewisia tweedyi species which grows there. This area was formally designated as a Special Botanical Area under the Alpine Lakes Management Plan.

Several recreation developments are under consideration, that could be developed independent of designation. These include two developed campgrounds, three boat put-in/take-out areas, two interpretive sites, and an interpreted riverside trail. The developments would likely be enhanced by designation of the river.

According to BLM mining claim recordation data, Segment 1 has had at least eleven mining claims located along the river in the past. However, due to the lack of annual assessment work, it appears that all eleven have been abandoned. The BLM has also classified the area as being prospectively valuable for coal resources, but there are no coal leases or lease applications at this time, nor has there been any significant exploration or development activity with respect to leasable mineral commodities. In addition, a Recreational classification of the river would allow new mining claims and leases, subject to 36 CFR 228 and other regulations that the Secretaries of Agriculture and Interior may prescribe to protect values of rivers included in the National Wild and Scenic River System.

The effects of designation on potential future uses of the private land in Segments 1 and 2 are likely to be minimal, due both to the level of classification proposed for the river, and because of the present zoning and land use regulations that are in place. A Recreational classification allows for small communities as well as dispersed or cluster residential developments along the river. New structures are allowed for both habitation and for intensive recreation use. Lands

may also be managed for a full range of agricultural uses, to the extent currently practiced. The Plain Rural District and the Residential-Recreational District Zones that cover Segment 1 appear to adequately protect the values that would be recognized through designation of the river. The one constraint that would be introduced through designation would be in the modifications permitted along the river banks and channel. Existing structures (low dams, diversions, riprap and other minor structures) would be allowed, but new structures might be prohibited, as would development of hydroelectric power facilities. Variances to the existing zoning regulations might also need to be restricted in order to ensure protection of the values for which the river would be designated. Every effort would be made to retain the existing patterns of land use and ownership, provided the uses remain consistent with the purposes of the act. Acquisition of easements from private landowners would occur only if key values were in jeopardy, and local government could not provide the necessary protection.

Designation as a Recreational River would likely enhance an already thriving tourism trade in this area. As a consequence of an economic revitalization effort in the 1960's and early 1970's, tourism has become a major focus and source of income for the valley. Thousands of visitors come to Leavenworth each year, many of them to take advantage of the recreation opportunities along the Wenatchee River and its tributary systems. Including the river in the National System might provide an additional attraction for these visitors.

There are probably few values that would be foreclosed or curtailed if the river were not protected as part of the System. As mentioned above, current management recognizes the scenic and recreational values within the corridor, and present zoning provides protection on private land. The greatest potential threat to river values would be in future diversions of the river, or in reactivation and enlargement of the Tumwater dam to provide hydroelectric power. Designation would ensure the protection of the free-flowing character of the Wenatchee River.

#### Suitability Factor #4 -Public, State and Local Governmental Interests.

The overall response of the public to designation of the Wenatchee River has been positive. There has been particular mention of the excellent kayaking, rafting and canoeing opportunities on the river, and the wish to see these opportunities protected. Most of the concerns expressed have come from landowners in the upper valley, who oppose including the block of private lands along the river within the National System. These residents feel that the river corridor between the headwaters and the upper end of the Wenatchee River Road is best managed under existing County regulations. Some are also concerned about the potential impacts of increased public use on the resources and private property along the river.

Chelan County officials have indicated that they could not support any proposal for designation of the Wenatchee River unless the County retains jurisdiction of the private lands within the designated river corridor. They have also verbally expressed a concern regarding the possible need to use riprap for protection of improvements along the river bank. The Forest Service will recommend that a proviso to allow riprapping be included in legislation for Recreational river segments. The only costs that would be shared in administration of the river would be those independent of designation, that are associated with existing County administration of the private holdings.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the Wenatchee River drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

If the Wenatchee River is included in the Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would rely on State and County controls for administration of the private lands. Valid, existing water rights would not be affected by designation.

## Suitability Factor #5 -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

There are no plans to acquire lands or interests in lands along the Wenatchee River, with the exception of a short 200 foot right-of-way across private land, at the southwest corner of the Highway 209 bridge at Plain. The purpose of the right-of-way is to access a small, isolated piece of National Forest land, where parking and a boat put-in/take-out locality is proposed for development. Cost of acquisition (which includes appraisal and contract administration costs) is estimated to be approximately \$5700.

Other costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor. The following are the expected total funding needs for the Wenatchee River for the next five year period:

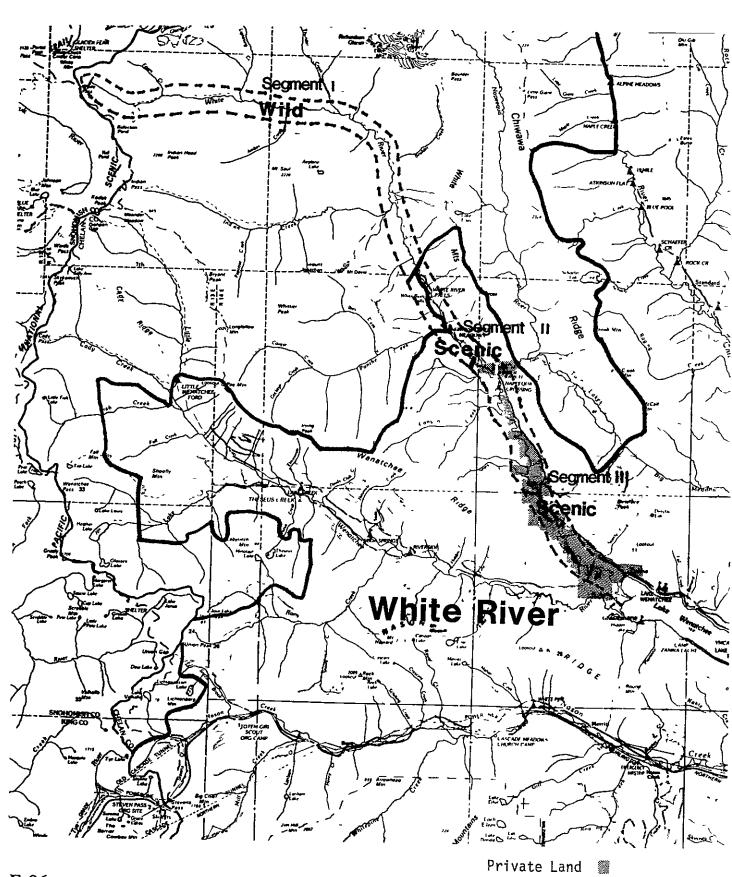
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration	\$10,000	\$ 12,000
Costs of Implementation		\$ 65,000
Development of Management Plan		\$130,000
Development Costs		<b>\$156,500</b>
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$15,000	\$ 35,000
Total - First Five Years	\$25,000	\$398,500

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$14,400 annually.

#### Suitability Factor #6-Other Issues and Concerns

A major concern has been expressed by the public with respect to the amount of government regulation that already exists in the Wenatchee River corridor. There are presently several overlapping National, State and County laws, regulations and executive orders that provide for protection of values within the river system. At the Federal level, these include the National Environmental Policy Act, the National Historic Preservation Act, the Endangered Species Act, the Fish and Wildlife Coordination Act, the Water Resources Planning Act, the Floodplain and Wetlands Executive Orders, the National Forest Management Act of 1976, and the Federal Land Policy and Management Act of 1976, in addition to the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act. At the State level, the Forest Practices Act and the Shorelines Management Act seek similar protection, and in Chelan County, there are further restrictions imposed by the Shoreline Master Program and the local zoning regulations. Many residents of the Wenatchee Valley feel strongly that the present scope of government regulation is more than adequate, and that designation of the river is not only unnecessary, but would foreclose on future opportunities to consider other resource uses and benefits. Landowners in the upper valley also view designation as a threat to private ownership, fearing loss of their property through governmental acquisition of easements or condemnation. E-85

# WHITE RIVER



#### WHITE RIVER

## Classification

The entire length of the White River, from the headwaters near the Cascade Crest to the terminus at Lake Wenatchee, is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. In the course of determining eligibility, three distinct segments of the river were identified, based on a combination of physical changes in the river character and differences in landownership along the river. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the headwaters in the SW 1/4 of Section 5, T.29N., R.14E., to the Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary in the SW 1/4 of Section 35, T.29N., R.15E.; a middle section (Segment 2) extending from the wilderness boundary to a point approximately 1/2 mile above the Tall Timber Ranch, at the east section line of Section 13, T.28N., R.15E.; and a lower section (Segment 3) extending from approximately 1/2 mile above Tall Timber Ranch to Lake Wenatchee.

Based on their highest potential classification, Segment 1 meets the standards for classification as a Wild River, and Segments 2 and 3 as a Scenic River.

## Segment 1

Segment 1, which is located entirely within the Glacier Peak Wilderness, is approximately 15 miles in length. Access along the corridor here is provided by Trail #1507, which parallels the river nearly its entire length through this segment. The trail drops into the valley near the headwaters and extends downriver along the north and east banks to the Glacier Peak Wilderness boundary. Trail #1562, which connects the White River drainage with the Napeequa via Boulder Pass, intersects Trail #1507 in the SW 1/4 of Section 15, T.29N., R.16E.

The Indian Creek Trail #1502 follows the west bank of the White River southward from the Indian Creek bridge in the NW 1/4 of Section 27, T.29N., R.16E., to the wilderness boundary, a distance of approximately 1 1/2 miles.

The only other structures to be seen in this segment of the river are a couple of footbridges and the collapsed remnants of the historic Indian Creek Guard Station near the confluence of Indian Creek with the White River.

## Segment 2

Segment 2 is seven miles in length and flows exclusively through National Forest land. The White River Road #6400 follows the east bank of Segment 2 to within approximately 1/4 mile of the wilderness boundary, providing scenic views of the creek and access to campgrounds and trailheads. Access continues from the end of the road into the wilderness by way of Trail #1507.

The Indian Creek Trail #1502 takes off from the same point as Trail #1507 and crosses the White River by way of a rustic footbridge near the trailhead. The route follows the west bank of the White River into the Glacier Peak Wilderness. Another segment of this trail heads south along the west bank of the White River for a distance of two miles, providing access to the Mt. David Trail #1521, and the Panther Creek Trail #1522.

Recreation developments within this segment include the White River Falls and Grasshopper Meadows Campgrounds.

## Segment 3

Segment 3 is 12 miles in length. The corridor here is a mix of National Forest and private lands, with approximately 64% of the acreage in private ownership. Much of the private land in this segment was homesteaded in the late nineteenth century and many of the fields then cleared along the river are still in use for grazing and hay production. Because of their low level of development, they tend to appear as natural meadow openings to the average river visitor.

Several homes and outbuildings are also situated along Segment 3, though most are not readily noticeable from the river. Tall Timber Ranch and the Tall Timber Homeowners Association subdivision, which are described in the Napeequa River section, overlap with the White River corridor. These are the most heavily developed lands in the segment. In addition, there has been an aggressively marketed subdivision of 20 acre lots along the stretch of river between Lake Wenatchee and Sears Creek. The Twin Lakes Trailhead and the Napeequa Crossing Campground are the only Forest Service recreation developments in this segment.

The County road, which eventually becomes Forest Road #6400 above the confluence of the Napeequa with the White River, intermittently approaches the river throughout Segment 3. Other Forest roads intersect the White River Road just above Lake Wenatchee (the Little Wenatchee Road #6500) and near Sears Creek, and a private road system diverges from the main road at Tall Timber Ranch, near the mouth of the Napeequa. In addition, there are two bridge crossings of the river in connection with the road system: the Little Wenatchee Road bridge which spans the White River a couple miles above its outlet, and the Sears Creek Road bridge in the NE 1/4 of Section 5, T.27N., R.16E.

There is also a gaging station site in this segment, situated 200 feet downstream of the Sears Creek bridge. The station has been periodically in use since 1912.

## Suitability:

Suitability Factor #1 -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

The White River is noted for its varied and outstanding scenery. Originating high in the Glacier Peak Wilderness, the river takes its name from the glacial silt that gives it a distinct milky appearance. At its upper end, the river plunges through a steep walled, glaciated valley that is bordered by stark mountain peaks, impressive alpine glaciers, precipitous cliffs, and numerous bare rock slopes, into the broader, more gently rolling terrain near Lake Wenatchee. The river course is one of cascading riffles and white water rapids, meanders, oxbows and wetlands. Patches of old growth interspersed with lush, green meadows add to the pristine ambience of the corridor.

A second attribute of outstanding value is the fact that the White River is one of only two remaining lake/river systems in the Columbia River drainage that still support a natural run of the anadromous sockeye salmon.

Suitability Factor #2 -Current Status of Land Ownership and Use.

Twenty-two percent of the White River corridor is in private ownership, all of these holdings being located in Segment 3. With the exception of that portion of the Tall Timber Homeowners Association subdivision that overlaps with the corridor in Segment 3, these residential and recreational uses are light density. Under the Chelan County Shoreline Master Program, the area is designated as Natural Environment, the most restrictive of the four shoreline classifications. The minimum

lot size is one acre, residences are confined to single family units which must blend, to the extent possible, with their surroundings, and shoreline modifications are prohibited except where necessary to protect the character of the environment. Besides these regulations, the soil and other physical characteristics of the land here substantially limit the scale of development that might otherwise be anticipated.

National Forest land below the wilderness boundary has been managed under a visual quality objective of retention, which emphasizes the scenic and recreational values of the corridor. Although timber harvest has taken place, the river area has been maintained in a near natural condition. There is a small amount of livestock grazing (30 to 40 head of cattle, and breeding stock) associated with the private holdings.

## Suitability Factor #3 -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

There would be no change in management of the National Forest lands as a result of designation. Segment 1 is currently managed as wilderness, which emphasizes the primitive, undeveloped character of the environment. Segments 2 and 3 are presently managed according to direction outlined in the Chelan Unit Plan, issued in April 1976. The plan identifies the White River as a potential wild and scenic river, and specifies that management activities be designed to protect the wild, scenic and recreation qualities of the corridor until such time as a detailed study can be conducted.

The mineral and energy resource potential of the White River is marginal. A small portion of Segment 2 once had mining claims located within the corridor, but there is no mention of these in the current BLM mining claim records. Currently, there are no reported locatable mineral resource occurrences along the river, nor does there appear to be much likelihood of future exploration or development. The river has been classified by the BLM as being prospectively valuable as a source of geothermal energy, the only leasable mineral resource with any potential for exploration in the White River drainage. However, designation of the river would not affect future mining or mineral lease potential. Since Segment 1 is within an existing wilderness, new claims and leases are already prohibited. Scenic classification does allow for new mining claims and mineral leases, subject to regulation (36 CFR 228), and provided the mineral activity be conducted in a manner that minimizes environmental degradation.

The White River provides vital sockeye salmon spawning habitat. One potential limitation that could occur on National Forest land as a result of Scenic designation might be in the type of structures or improvements that could be constructed to enhance this habitat.

The effects of designation on potential future uses of the private land in Segment 3 are likely to be minimal, due to the present County land use regulations that are in place. Scenic designation allows for new structures, as long as these are modest in size, unobtrusive, and do not have a direct and adverse effect on river values. Concentrations of habitations may occur, but are limited to relatively short reaches of the river corridor. Agricultural use is permitted to the extent currently practiced. Shoreline Master Program classification of the private land as a Natural Environment, the most restrictive of the four classifications, incorporates these objectives and would appear to adequately protect the values that would be recognized through designation of the river. However, variances to these regulations might need to be restricted in order to ensure protection of the river values.

There are probably few values that would be foreclosed or curtailed if the river were not protected as part of the System, as long as management continues to follow a visual quality objective of retention. As mentioned above, current management recognizes the scenic and recreational values within the corridor, and present county land use regulations provide a reasonable level of protection on private land. The greatest potential threat to river values would be in future impoundments. Designation would ensure the protection of the free-flowing character of the White River.

## Suitability Factor #4 - Public, State and Local Governmental Interests.

The overall public response to designation of the White River as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System has been positive. Many have expressed support for protection of the outstanding river values here, particularly the white water opportunities, the fisheries and the scenery. The major concerns expressed are with management of the private land in Segment 3, especially in the area around Tall Timber Ranch. The Ranch owners and administrators are fearful of the effect on future development that a Scenic designation might have, as well as of the disruptive influence and potential security problems that might result from increased public use and access in the area. A few property owners are alarmed at the potential for additional government regulation of their holdings if the river were to be designated.

Chelan County officials have indicated they could not support any proposal for designation of the White River unless the County retains jurisdiction of private lands within the designated river corridor. The only costs that would be shared in administration of the river would be those independent of designation, that are associated with existing County administration of the private holdings. The County has also expressed a verbal concern regarding the possible need to riprap to protect improvements.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the White River drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

If the White River is included in the Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest Service would rely on State and County controls for administration of the private lands. The Forest would also recommend that a proviso be included in any Wild and Scenic legislation to allow riprapping for the preservation and protection of existing improvements.

## Suitability Factor #5 -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

There are no foreseeable plans to acquire lands or interests in lands along the White River. Acquisition of easements from private landowners would occur only if key values were in jeopardy, and local government could not provide the necessary protection.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor and are primarily directed to National Forest lands. The following are the expected funding needs for the White River for a total five year period:

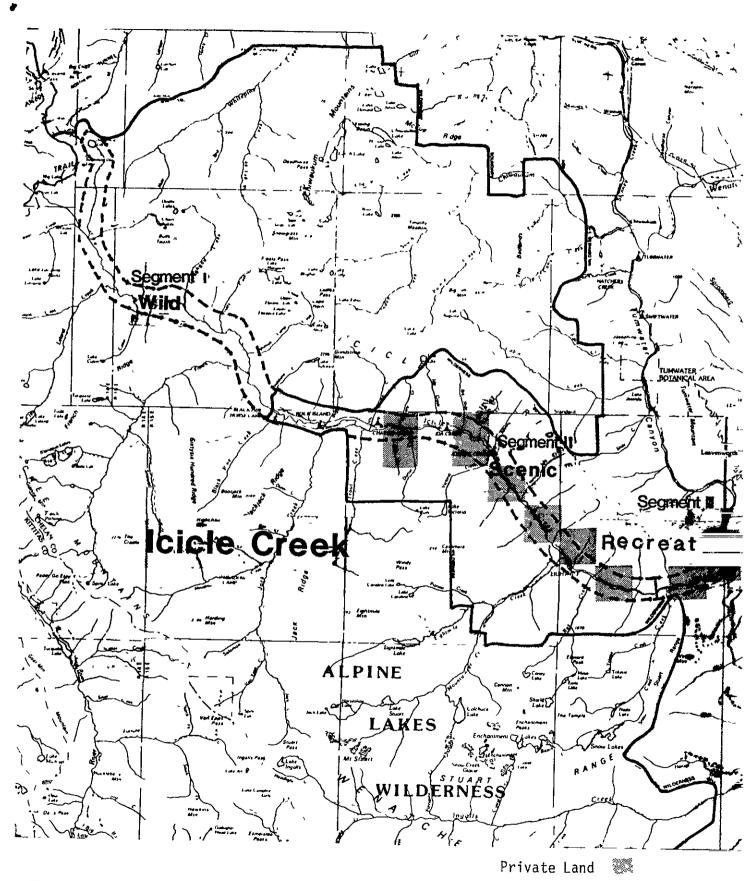
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration Costs of Implementation Development of Management Plan	\$ 2,500	\$ 5,000 \$12,000 \$65,000
Development Costs	\$30,000	\$60,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$ 8,000	\$26,000
Total - First Five Years	\$40,500	\$168,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$8,300 annually.

## Suitability Factor #6-Other Issues and Concerns

No other major issues or concerns have been identified.

# **ICICLE CREEK**



#### LEAVENWORTH RANGER DISTRICT

# **ICICLE CREEK**

#### Classification:

The Icicle Creek, from the headwaters to the Wenatchee National Forest boundary in the NE 1/4 of Section 26, T.24N., R.17E., is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. In the course of determining eligibility, three distinct segments of the river were identified, based on a combination of physical changes in the river character, and differences in landownership and development along the river corridor. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the headwaters at Josephine Lake to the Alpine Lakes Wilderness boundary in the NE 1/4 of Section 3, T.24N., R.15E.; a middle section (Segment 2) extending from the wilderness boundary to the City of Leavenworth water intake in the SE 1/4 of Section 28, T.24N., R.17E.; and a lower section (Segment 3) extending from the water intake to the Forest boundary.

Based on their highest potential classification, Segment 1 meets the standards for classification as a Wild River, Segment 2 as a Scenic River, and Segment 3 as a Recreational River.

# Segment 1

Segment 1, which is located entirely within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness, is approximately 12 miles in length. Trail #1551 parallels and criss-crosses the Icicle in this segment, and is intersected at various points by trails associated with the side drainages. Numerous undeveloped sites provide camping opportunities along this portion of the corridor.

## Segment 2

Segment 2 is 14 miles in length. Approximately 46% of the corridor is in private ownership, the lands being intermingled in checkerboard pattern with National Forest System lands. Most of these private holdings have been surveyed and are being sold for individual cabin development. Five of the lots currently have structures on them, but the buildings are screened by vegetation and/or topography from the creek. The Church of Moses Lake has also applied for a conditional use permit to build a small RV Park on their property in Section 13, T.24N., R.16E. As with all developments in the Icicle corridor, their proposal will be closely scrutinized by the Icicle Valley Design Review Overlay District, to ensure it meets the required land use standards established by the District for private land.

Access along the Icicle in this segment is provided by the Icicle River Road #7600, which follows the north bank of the creek to the upper end of the segment. In addition, three tributary roads intersect the corridor at Doctor Creek, Bridge Creek and Eightmile Creek. Branches of the Icicle Road are reached by a bridge spanning the Icicle Creek at Rock Island Campground. These branches trend both westward and easterly for short distances along the south bank of the creek.

In addition to the bridge at Rock Island, there are road bridges across the Icicle at Doctor Creek, Bridge Creek and Rat Creek, and trail bridges at Chatter Creek and Eightmile Creek.

Other developments in Segment 2 include seven camping/picnic sites situated in the corridor between Eightmile Creek and the wilderness boundary. At one of these, Ida Creek Campground, a 500 foot stretch of riprap has been installed along the river bank to protect the improvements here. The Chatter Creek Guard Station, an historic administrative complex that has been listed on the National Register of Historic Places, is adjacent to the Chatter Creek Campground in this segment.

#### Segment 3

Segment 3 is 2.5 miles in length and includes two water developments: the Icicle Irrigation District dam and canal, and the City of Leavenworth water intake, both located on National Forest land in the SE 1/4 of Section 28, T.24N., R.17E. In addition, the Leavenworth National Fish Hatchery (which is located on the Icicle below the Forest boundary) and the Icicle Irrigation District have facilities on some of the high mountain lakes which drain into the Icicle via Snow Creek. These facilities allow the storage and release of additional water into the river on an "as needed" basis.

As in Segment 2, the Icicle River Road hugs the north bank of the Icicle, to within 1/2 mile of the Forest boundary. The Snow Lakes parking lot, footbridge and trailhead are located on private land near the Icicle Irrigation District diversion, in the SW 1/4 of Section 27, T.24N., R.17E. A land exchange is pending between the Forest Service and the Icicle Irrigation District that would transfer the diversion facilities to the Irrigation District, with the Forest Service acquiring the Snow Lakes Trailhead facilities in return.

## Suitability:

Suitability Factor #1 -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

The narrow, steep, glaciated valley of the Icicle is characterized by a cascading water course, high, open ridges, extensive snowfields, majestic peaks, and rugged slopes with large outcrops of granite. The mixed conifer cover is interspersed with frequent meadow openings.

There is heavy recreational use of the Icicle for camping, hiking, fishing, hunting, rock climbing, and water play by visitors from the Wenatchee and Central Washington communities to the east, and Puget Sound to the west. The upper drainage also serves as a major access route into the Alpine Lakes Wilderness.

#### Suitability Factor #2 - Current Status of Land Ownership and Use.

Approximately 30% of the study corridor is in private ownership, with these holdings being checkerboarded through Segments 2 and 3. In recent years the private sections along the creek have been surveyed and are being sold as individual parcels. However, because of the area's outstanding scenic qualities, its values to the City of Leavenworth and local recreationists, and in order to protect the quality of the water in the drainage (the Icicle is the source of Leavenworth's domestic water supply), the Icicle Valley Design Review Overlay District was established by Chelan County. The District has the authority to review and make recommendations on all matters subject to the local government permit process, and has established a set of stringent standards for developments in the Icicle. This includes a restriction of 20 acres as the minimum size tract that can be subdivided.

National Forest land below the wilderness boundary has been managed under a visual quality objective of retention, which emphasizes the scenic and recreational values of the corridor. Timber harvest activities are designed to maintain the near natural condition of the corridor. Recreation use is very high, with two of the developed campgrounds in the Icicle having been expanded to accommodate this use.

## Suitability Factor #3 -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

Water from the Icicle Creek has been of crucial importance to both the City of Leavenworth and the upper Wenatchee Valley. It provides the domestic water supply for the residents of Leavenworth, and the Icicle Irrigation District supplies water from Icicle Creek to most of the fruit orchards in the upper Wenatchee Valley. In addition, a national salmon hatchery is located on the Icicle, just below the Forest boundary. Both the salmon hatchery and the Irrigation District regulate the volume of flow in the lower segment of the Icicle through damming of some of the lakes at the head of Snow Creek, a major tributary of the Icicle.

A Recreational classification would allow for the existing low dam and diversion canal, as well as the intake for the Leavenworth water supply in Segment 3. However, the City of Leavenworth and surrounding area are continuing to grow in population and level of development. As a consequence, there may be a future need to expand the existing facilities to accommodate this demographic change. This expansion could be curtailed if this portion of the river is designated.

The effects of designation on other potential uses of the private land in Segments 2 and 3 are likely to be minimal, due to the present zoning and land use regulations that are in place. Scenic designation in Segment 2, where most of the development is taking place, allows for new structures as long as these are modest in size, unobtrusive, and do not have a direct and adverse effect on river values. Concentrations of habitations may occur, but are limited to relatively short reaches of the river corridor. The Icicle Valley Design Review Overlay District incorporates these objectives and would appear to adequately protect the values that would be recognized through designation of the river. However, variances to these regulations might need to be restricted in order to ensure protection of the river values.

The City of Leavenworth is a nationally advertised tourist destination. Designation of the Icicle as a Wild and Scenic River would likely increase the number of visitors to the area, and would accentuate the recreational and scenic values that have long been recognized here.

There might be some change in the management of National Forest lands, and specifically of recreation use, as a result of designation. Segment 1 is currently managed as wilderness, which emphasizes the primitive, undeveloped character of the environment. Segments 2 and 3 are presently managed under the Alpine Lakes Management Plan as Scenic Forest. The objective of this allocation is to retain or enhance the viewing and recreation experience in the Icicle, with timber management activities designed to meet this goal. If designation takes place, it is likely that there would be tighter controls on recreation use along the corridor, to ensure that the potential increase in visitors does not result in the degradation of water quality or resources within the Icicle.

With respect to mineral potential, Segment 1 is currently withdrawn from mineral entry because it lies wholly within the Alpine Lakes Wilderness. Segments 2 and 3 are not encumbered by any mining claims. Furthermore, the area has not been identified as having potential for the occurrence of locatable mineral resources, nor is it classified as being prospectively valuable for leasable mineral commodities.

Some scenic values in Segments 2 and 3 could be foreclosed if the river were not managed as part of the Wild and Scenic River System. Timber harvest on private land is regulated under the State Forest Practices Act and the State Shoreline Management Act. These allow clearcuts to within 200 feet of the river shoreline. Although the intent of designation is to follow State and County controls on private land, it is possible that designation would encourage greater sensitivity to the visual values within the Wild and Scenic corridor. In addition, designation would ensure protection of the free-flowing character of the Icicle.

#### Suitability Factor #4 - Public, State and Local Governmental Interests.

The overall public response to designation of the Icicle Creek as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System has been positive. Many have expressed support for protection of the outstanding scenery and excellent recreation opportunities in the corridor. The major concerns expressed are with the potential effects of designation on the private holdings. Some of the landowners view designation as a threat to their property rights, and feel that present federal, state and local controls are adequate protection for the river values. Some are worried that the public will be given access to their lands, and that property values will fall. The Icicle Irrigation District has also expressed concerns over the effects of designation on the rehabilitation, operation and maintenance of their dam and canal. The irrigation water they provide through their facility serves some 7500 acres of agricultural land.

Chelan County officials have indicated they could not support any proposal for designation of the Icicle Creek unless the County retains jurisdiction of private lands within the designated corridor. They are also concerned about the possible effects of designation on water rights for agricultural lands below the Forest boundary. The only costs that would be shared in administration of the river would be those independent of designation, that are associated with existing County administration of the private holdings.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the Icicle River drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

If the Icicle Creek is included in the Wild and Scenic River System, the Forest would rely on State and County controls for administration of private lands. Valid, existing water rights, such as those held by the Icicle Irrigation District, would not be affected by designation. Any Forest recommendation for Wild and Scenic River designation would exclude Segment 3, which includes the City of Leavenworth and Icicle Irrigation District water diversions and associated facilities.

# Suitability Factor #5 -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor and are directed to National Forest lands. The following are the expected funding needs for the Icicle River for a total five year period:

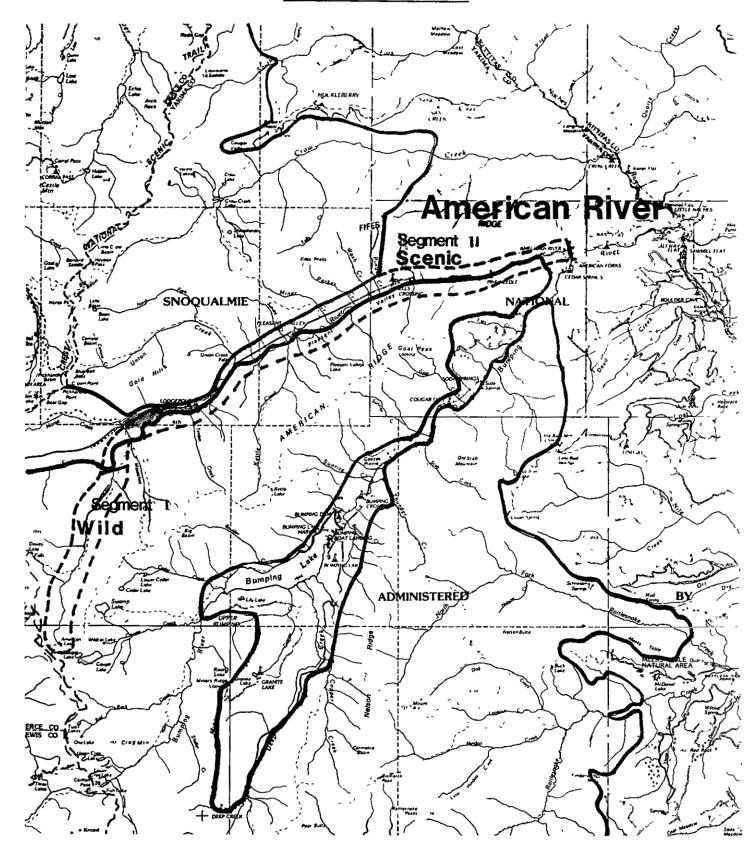
	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration Costs of Implementation Development of Management Plan Development Costs	\$10,000	\$ 10,000 \$ 35,000 \$120,000 \$ 25,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$20,000	\$ 20,000
Total - First Five Years	\$30,000	\$210,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$12,000 annually.

# Suitability Factor #6-Other Issues and Concerns

No other major issues or concerns have been identified.

# **AMERICAN RIVER**



## NACHES RANGER DISTRICT

## **AMERICAN RIVER**

#### Classification:

The American River, from the headwaters to the confluence with the Bumping River is considered to be eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River system. There are no private lands included within the corridor. In the course of determining eligibility, two distinct segments of the river were identified, based on a combination of physical changes in the river character, and differences in development along the river corridor. These segments consist of an upper section (Segment 1) extending from the headwaters at American Lake to the confluence with the Rainier Fork in the SE 1/4 of Section 9, T.16N., R.11E.; and a lower section (Segment 2) extending from the Rainier Fork to the confluence with the Bumping River.

Based on their highest potential classification, Segment 1 meets the standards for classification as a Wild River, and Segment 2 as a Scenic River.

## Segment 1

Segment 1, which is located entirely within the William O. Douglas Wilderness, is 6 miles in length. Access along the corridor is provided by Trail #968, which parallels the east side of the river to within 2 1/2 miles of the headwaters. The trail crosses the river in the NE 1/4 of Section 29, T.16N.,R.11E., for the ascent to Dewey Lake.

# Segment 2

Segment 2 is 16 miles in length. The river forms the wilderness boundary through portions of this segment, with much of the south side of the corridor being located in the William O. Douglas Wilderness, and a small number of acres north of the river being situated in the Norse Peak Wilderness.

U.S. Highway 410, the Mather Memorial Parkway, closely follows the American River the length of Segment 2, providing access to the numerous campgrounds, trailheads, and recreation residence tracts that exist here. Bridges span the river in the NW 1/4 of Section 35, T.17N., R.11E., where the highway extends for a short distance to the southeast side of the river. The highway also bridges the river at Hell's Crossing and at Hall Creek. A fifth bridge spans the American near its confluence with the Bumping River, at the junction of Highway 410 with County Road #1050.

Most of the remaining developments in Segment 2 are related to recreation use. There are six trailheads along the river: Mesatchee Creek (Trail #969, which crosses to the south side of the American River via a rustic, single log footbridge in the SW 1/4 of Section 3, T.16N., R.11E.; there is also parking space for 12 vehicles at the trailhead); Union Creek (Trail #956); Pleasant Valley (Trail #957, which crosses to the south side of the American River by way of a substantial wooden trail bridge); Crow Lake Way (a fully developed trailhead for Trail #953); Fife's Peak (a minimally developed trailhead for Trail #954); and Hell's Crossing (Goat Peak Trail and Trail #999; the latter trail is a popular cross-country ski route which parallels the southern edge of the river between the Goat Peak Trail to the east and Trail #957 to the west).

There are also four developed campgrounds in Segment 2: the 34 unit Lodgepole, the 19 unit Pleasant Valley, the 17 unit Hell's Crossing, and Pine Needle Campground, a reservation campsite. In addition, six recreation residence tracts under permit to the Forest Service are scattered through the corridor here: the Timber Creek Tract with 13 residences, the Union Creek Tract with six residences, the Pleasant Valley Tract, with seven residences, the Sleepy Hollow Tract with 15 residences, and the American

River Tract with 11 residences. A Pacific Power and Light Company powerline extends from the eastern edge of Segment 2, westward along the north side of the river as far as the Sleepy Hollow Tract. A private telephone line also occupies the powerline corridor.

## Suitability:

Suitability Factor #1 -Characteristics Which Make the Area a Worthy Addition to the System.

The American River is noted for its highly varied, spectacular scenery. Originating high in the William O. Douglas Wilderness, the upper course tumbles eastward through a broad, glaciated, U-shaped valley characterized, near the Cascade Crest, by immense, back-to-back cirque basins. At its lower end, the corridor changes dramatically, as the river plunges through a narrow, winding canyon accentuated by precipitous, andesite cliffs. The river course is one of cascading rapids, riffles and white water areas throughout the segments under study. Lands adj: Int to Highway 410, along the north side of the river, have been designated by the Secretary of Agriculture as the Mather Memorial Parkway "for the use and the enjoyment of the general public for scenic and recreation purposes..."

## Suitability Factor #2 - Current Status of Land Ownership and Use.

The proposed river corridor is located exclusively on National Forest lands. Major uses include recreation (fishing, hunting, camping, hiking, picnicking, kayaking, and cross-country skiing), and timber management activities. The lands outside the wilderness boundary have been managed under a visual quality objective of retention, which emphasizes the scenic and recreational values of the corridor. The upper six miles of the American River are managed as wilderness.

#### Suitability Factor #3 -Foreseeable Potential Uses.

There would be no change in management of the National Forest lands as a result of designation. Segment 1 is currently managed as wilderness, which emphasizes the primitive, undeveloped character of the environment. Segment 2, which includes the Mather Memorial Parkway, is managed primarily for scenic and recreational purposes, with special consideration given to maintaining or enhancing the visual quality of the area.

The American River has a long history of mining use. Today, Segment 1 is withdrawn from mineral entry because of its location within the William O. Douglas Wilderness. However, according to BLM mining claim recordation data, there are a total of 28 unpatented claims in Segment 2. The bulk of these are situated between the confluence of the American River with the Rainier Fork and the Pleasant Valley Campground, with the remaining three being located between Pine Needle and American Forks Campgrounds. Assessment work has been completed on all of these claims through at least 1987. There are also reported occurrences of basalt and placer gold in Section 35, T.17N., R.11E., and basalt in Section 18, T.17N., R.13E. In addition, that portion of the American River from Wash Creek westward is classified by the BLM as being prospectively valuable for geothermal resources, although the area has no reported history of geothermal exploration or development.

Designation of the river would not affect the future mining potential in Segment 2. Preexisting mining claims with valid mining rights would be allowed to continue, subject to 36 CFR 228. A Scenic classification also allows for new mining claims and mineral leases, subject to the same regulations, provided the mineral activity is conducted in a manner that minimizes environmental degradation.

There are probably few values that would be foreclosed or curtailed if the American River was not protected as part of the System. Timber management activities presently recognize the scenic and recreational values of the corridor, and the designation of the Mather Memorial Parkway further reinforces this direction. The greatest potential threat to river values, however, would be in future diversions or impoundments. Designation would ensure the protection of the free-flowing character of the American River drainage.

## Suitability Factor #4 - Public, State and Local Governmental Interests.

The overall public response to designation of the American River as an addition to the Wild and Scenic River System has been positive. Many support recognition and protection of the outstanding scenic values here, as well as the enhancement of the recreation opportunities, and protection of the fisheries, wildlife habitat, and water quality. The few concerns expressed are with the potential effects of designation on timber harvest levels, and on mining along the river corridor.

Yakima County officials would probably not support any proposal for designation that affects their jurisdiction over private lands, or that significantly decreases the tumber supply from the Naches Ranger District. However, as mentioned above, there are no private lands located within the American River segments under study for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System. In addition, the corridor overlaps with the Mather Memorial Parkway and, in some areas, with wilderness. Designation of the American River would have no additional effect on the timber supply.

The Washington State Department of Wildlife is in full support of the proposed river designation, and in fact, recommends reassessment of additional rivers on the Forest for potential eligibility as Wild and Scenic Rivers. The Yakima Indian Nation, whose ceded lands include the American River drainage, supports designation at the highest potential classification, although they have some concerns for potential conflicts between recreation use and the protection of fisheries and tribal fishing localities. The Yakima would like to be involved in any subsequent river management plans that might be developed.

Suitability Factor #5 -Cost of Acquisition and Interests.

There are no private lands included within the proposed Wild and Scenic corridor of the American River.

Costs associated with designation are related to planning and administration of the river corridor and are directed to National Forest lands. The following are the expected funding needs for the American River for a total five year period:

	Expenses Expected Independent of Designation	Additional Expenses Expected with Designation
General Administration Costs of Implementation Development of Management Plan	\$ 6,000	\$ 20,000 \$ 20,000 \$ 40,000
Development Costs	\$50,000	\$100,000
Operation and Maintenance Costs	\$10,000	\$ 15,000
Total - First Five Years	\$66,000	\$195,000

General administration and operation and maintenance costs are estimated to continue at \$10,200 annually.

Suitability Factor #6-Other Issues and Concerns.

No other major issues or concerns have been identified.

# IV. ADMINISTRATIVE AND MANAGEMENT GUIDELINES

The following administrative and management guidelines are proposed to guide the development of detailed management plans for those rivers on the Wenatchee National Forest that are Congressionally designated as Wild and Scenic Rivers:

- 1. The Forest Service will be the administering agency for designated rivers within the Wenatchee National Forest. As the administrative agency, the Forest Service intends to manage the surface waters of the rivers or river segments, as well as the National Forest lands within the designated corridors, in accordance with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act.
- 2. River corridor boundaries will be established to protect the outstandingly remarkable values for each designated river segment. These boundaries may not exceed an average of 320 acres per river mile over the designated portion of the river. The boundary will be delineated using natural or manmade features (canyon rims, roads, ridgetops, etc.), and legally identifiable property lines.
- 3. Every effort will be made to retain the existing patterns of land use and ownership, provided these uses remain consistent with the purposes of the Act.
- 4. State and County laws and regulations may be sufficient to protect river values on non-Federal lands. Rather than impose another layer of control on these lands, it will be the intent of the Management Plan to rely on State and County controls for administration of the private land within the designated rivers.

- 5. The Forest Service will monitor the results of local controls against the values for which the various rivers or river segments were designated. In the event that local controls do not appear to provide the necessary protection, the Forest Service will initiate discussions with County and/or State Agencies to determine the action needed to obtain necessary protection.
- 6. If local government action cannot be implemented, it may be necessary to impose additional controls for protection of some segments of designated rivers. Where key values are in jeopardy, this would most likely require acquisition of easements from private landowners.
- 7. This management concept for non-Federal lands will require close and frequent coordination between the Forest Service and Counties. To clearly define the authorities and responsibilities between the Forest Service and Counties, a series of cooperative agreements will be prepared.
- 8. Conflicts between public use and private landowners will be minimized to the extent possible. Access easements across private lands will be used only where no viable alternatives exist. (At this time, the only private land access easement that has been identified for acquisition is at Plain, just upstream from the SR 209 bridge crossing of the Wenatchee River.) Designation as a Wild and Scenic River does not change or affect existing public access on private lands.
- 9. Public use and enjoyment of designated rivers will be provided for, while protecting the values that caused these rivers to be included in the System. In this regard, public use will be regulated and distributed, where necessary, to protect and enhance these values. Basic facilities will be provided to absorb user impacts on the resources, as appropriate.
- 10. Valid water rights will not be affected by Wild and Scenic River designation. Existing dams and diversions and similar water projects located on designated river segments will be allowed to continue, subject to other applicable laws and regulations. New water project proposals will be evaluated on their potential to directly or adversely affect the attributes which made the river eligible for inclusion in the Wild and Scenic River System.
- 11. A proviso to allow riprapping will be recommended for inclusion in legislation for designation of "Recreational" river segments on the Forest. The riprap would be confined to the use of natural appearing rock along the shoreline for the preservation and protection of those investments existing before designation of the rivers, providing that there are no other viable alternatives short of abandonment.
- 12. Development of the detailed river management plans will provide for full citizen participation by landowners and river users.