

**WAC 197-11-960 Environmental checklist.**

ENVIRONMENTAL CHECKLIST

*Purpose of checklist:*

The State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA), chapter 43.21C RCW, requires all governmental agencies to consider the environmental impacts of a proposal before making decisions. An environmental impact statement (EIS) must be prepared for all proposals with probable significant adverse impacts on the quality of the environment. The purpose of this checklist is to provide information to help you and the agency identify impacts from your proposal (and to reduce or avoid impacts from the proposal, if it can be done) and to help the agency decide whether an EIS is required.

*Instructions for applicants:*

This environmental checklist asks you to describe some basic information about your proposal. Governmental agencies use this checklist to determine whether the environmental impacts of your proposal are significant, requiring preparation of an EIS. Answer the questions briefly, with the most precise information known, or give the best description you can.

You must answer each question accurately and carefully, to the best of your knowledge. In most cases, you should be able to answer the questions from your own observations or project plans without the need to hire experts. If you really do not know the answer, or if a question does not apply to your proposal, write "do not know" or "does not apply." Complete answers to the questions now may avoid unnecessary delays later.

Some questions ask about governmental regulations, such as zoning, shoreline, and landmark designations. Answer these questions if you can. If you have problems, the governmental agencies can assist you.

The checklist questions apply to all parts of your proposal, even if you plan to do them over a period of time or on different parcels of land. Attach any additional information that will help describe your proposal or its environmental effects. The agency to which you submit this checklist may ask you to explain your answers or provide additional information reasonably related to determining if there may be significant adverse impact.

*Use of checklist for nonproject proposals:*

Complete this checklist for nonproject proposals, even though questions may be answered "does not apply." IN ADDITION, complete the SUPPLEMENTAL SHEET FOR NONPROJECT ACTIONS (part D).

For nonproject actions, the references in the checklist to the words "project," "applicant," and "property or site" should be read as "proposal," "proposer," and "affected geographic area," respectively.

A. BACKGROUND

1. Name of proposed project, if applicable:

**Taneum Creek Restoration Project-Phase Two**

2. Name of applicant:

**Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife**

3. Address and phone number of applicant and contact person:

**Shana Winegeart, LT Murray Wildlife Area Manager**

**201 North Pearl Street**

**Ellensburg, WA 98926**

**925-6746**

**Shana.Winegeart@dfw.wa.gov**

4. Date checklist prepared:

**Tuesday, June 1, 2010**

5. Agency requesting checklist:

**WDFW**

6. Proposed timing or schedule (including phasing, if applicable):

**The project will be implemented for up to three years or as funding allows, beginning in summer 2010.**

7. Do you have any plans for future additions, expansion, or further activity related to or connected with this proposal? If yes, explain. **The proposed project is phase two. During phase one, over 400 full-length trees minus rootwad were placed with hand tools at 11 restoration sites. This phase is more intensive, with wood placement proposed at approximately 40 locations. Wood will be positioned in the stream channel and adjacent floodplain with heavy equipment. Additional activities at these locations may be implemented in future years. Similar work may also be proposed in the future at other locations in the Taneum watershed.**

8. List any environmental information you know about that has been prepared, or will be prepared, directly related to this proposal.

- **Forest Practices Application and Alternative Plan**
- **JARPA**
- **Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group (MCRFEG) grant application to the Washington State Salmon Recovery Funding Board**
- **“The Pine Tree Express” a historical book that chronicles logging and railroad activity in the Taneum and some other local watersheds.**
- **Technical memorandum of 2007 instream habitat surveys**
- **Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines (Washington State Aquatic Habitat Guidelines Program 2004)**
- **Design Considerations for Large Woody Debris Placement in Stream Enhancement Projects (Hilderbrand et al 1998 North American Journal of Fisheries Management 18: 161-167)**

9. Do you know whether applications are pending for governmental approvals of other proposals directly affecting the property covered by your proposal? If yes, explain.

**None known**

10. List any government approvals or permits that will be needed for your proposal, if known.

**SEPA Determination-WDFW**

**Forest Practices Permit -- WDNR**

**Hydraulic Project Approval -- WDFW**

**Shoreline Management Act -- Kittitas County**

**CWA 404 – USACOE**

**CWA 401 – WDOE**

**ESA Section 7 – NMFS and USFWS**

**NHPA Section 106 – SHPO and THPO**

11. Give brief, complete description of your proposal, including the proposed uses and the size of the project and site. There are several questions later in this checklist that ask you to describe certain aspects of your proposal. You do not need to repeat those answers on this page. (Lead agencies may modify this form to include additional specific information on project description.)

**Taneum Creek is a tributary to the mainstem Yakima River, and is listed in local recovery plans as a high priority for fish passage restoration and habitat improvement projects benefiting Middle Columbia River (MCR) steelhead and Columbia River bull trout because much of the watershed is in public ownership. In 2005 the Mid-Columbia Regional Fisheries Enhancement Group (RFEG) partnered with other entities to fund the acquisition of winter water rights from the Taneum Canal Company. As a result, winter instream flow has improved by up to 28.8 cfs providing benefits to aquatic life. In 2009, restoration interests partnered to implement passage and instream flow improvement at the Bruton Diversion Dam. The result was elimination of a diversion structure that was over six feet high, and improved instream flow. Irrigation rights are now served by a non-Taneum water source, although an infiltration gallery still diverts a small quantity of water from Taneum at the Bruton location. The RFEG has also funded instream and riparian habitat restoration activities on private property, located approximately four miles downstream of this proposal. Another project is in the planning stages to improve fish passage at the Taneum Canal Diversion, which is the one remaining irrigation dam that does not meet National Marine**

## Fisheries Service passage criteria.

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is a large landowner in the Taneum Watershed. Habitat surveys in the lower three miles of WDFW ownership were conducted during the summer of 2007 and found that large woody debris (LWD), an important stream habitat component, is lacking in the project reach. Of the reaches surveyed, approximately 75% were either entirely or nearly devoid of in-channel woody debris and associated pools. Where LWD was present, smaller material racked against it causing hydraulic changes that enhance salmonid habitat, including scour holes and upstream gravel aggradations. Because of a lack of woody debris, pool frequency was extremely low at the time of the survey.

Due to fire suppression and historic timber harvests, the adjacent upland coniferous forest has been transformed from a ponderosa pine forest to a ponderosa pine-true fir/douglas fir forest, with extremely high fuel loads. Where funding is available, forest managers are striving to shift the forest stand back to the historic pine stand by under story thinning and introduction of prescribed fire.

This project will selectively remove some of the fir tree component from a four-acre forest stand, and transport the trees to small landings near Taneum Creek via heavy equipment. Trees will then be recruited in the stream via tracked excavator and with small tractor-mounted winches and hand tools. The recruited trees will be full length (45-100 feet), into areas with healthy riparian vegetation abutting the stream channel. In addition, some trees with rootwads will be transported into the Taneum watershed from other locations. These trees will be at least 40 feet in overall length, including large complex rootwads. High flows are expected to move the recruited logs downstream a short distance, but because the trees are much longer than the bankfull stream width, they will rack against adjacent riparian vegetation, forming complex jams with scour pools and sorted gravels. Naturally-recruited woody material will rack against the larger, key pieces to expedite the natural process of log jam formation.

At some locations, untreated logs will be driven as pilings into stream substrate above the active water level and along channel margins. These will serve as “racking members” for small material to lodge against during high flows. The intent is to develop an abundance of wood structure in the stream channel, to increase the amount of water that spreads out onto adjacent floodplains during high water. During high magnitude floods (such as the January 2009 flood) another anticipated benefit will be the movement of ice from the channel onto the adjacent floodplain areas. Through this restoration project, it is expected that frequency and magnitude of overland flow onto adjacent floodplain areas will increase.

The Yahne Bridge will also be removed, and replaced with a pedestrian bridge. The old bridge has been closed to vehicular traffic for many years, and the log abutments have deteriorated to the extent that the bridge deck has sunk approximately 1.5 feet. Some of the deck members are missing. Some of the approach fill on both sides of the bridge will be removed. **A temporary bridge will be installed adjacent to the existing bridge location for construction traffic and access to both sides of the creek for fill removal. Fill that is removed will be deposited at an approved upland location. An overflow culvert in the existing bridge fill will also be removed during the fill removal. It is estimated that approximately 400 cy of material will be removed from the Taneum Creek floodplain.**

Although the Yahne Bridge has been closed to vehicles, it remains a popular site for pedestrians. To address concerns over loss of access, the bridge is proposed to be replaced with a pedestrian-only bridge. However, the existing location is a poor bridge crossing site because the floodplain is wide (approximately 500 feet). The new bridge will be constructed upstream .7 miles at a location where the floodplain is less than half that width. A minor amount of brush clearing will occur at the new bridge for trail access to historically-used areas.

Some of the smaller diameter trees may be strategically scattered in floodplain areas to provide habitat complexity and microclimate benefits. Native trees may be installed in locations that would benefit from revegetation.

The Yakama Nation (YN) Fisheries Habitat staff will implement all of this work except the bridge removal. Labor for erosion control, wood placement, site cleanup, bridge construction and trail work will be provided by the Washington Conservation Corps (WCC). The YN and WCC partnered during implementation of phase one, and thus have experience using large wood for stream habitat restoration.

12. Location of the proposal. Give sufficient information for a person to understand the precise location of your proposed project, including a street address, if any, and section, township, and range, if known. If a proposal would occur over a range of area, provide the range or boundaries of the site(s). Provide a legal description, site plan, vicinity map, and topographic map, if reasonably available. While you should submit any plans required by the agency, you are not required to duplicate maps or detailed plans submitted with any permit applications related to this checklist.
1. Located within WDFW’s L.T. Murray Wildlife Area on Taneum Creek (Figures 1 and 2)

2. Just South of Taneum Road, near Thorp, Kittitas County 98946
3. WRIA 39—Upper Yakima River Basin
4. 47.08711° N; -120.80558° W – Most downstream location in the project reach
5. Township 19 N, Range 16 E, Sections 28, 29, 30, 33, 34, 35; and Township 18 N, Range 16 E, Sections 2 and 3
6. Parcel numbers: 933533, 563633, 553633, 523633, 513633, 503633, 613533, 573633

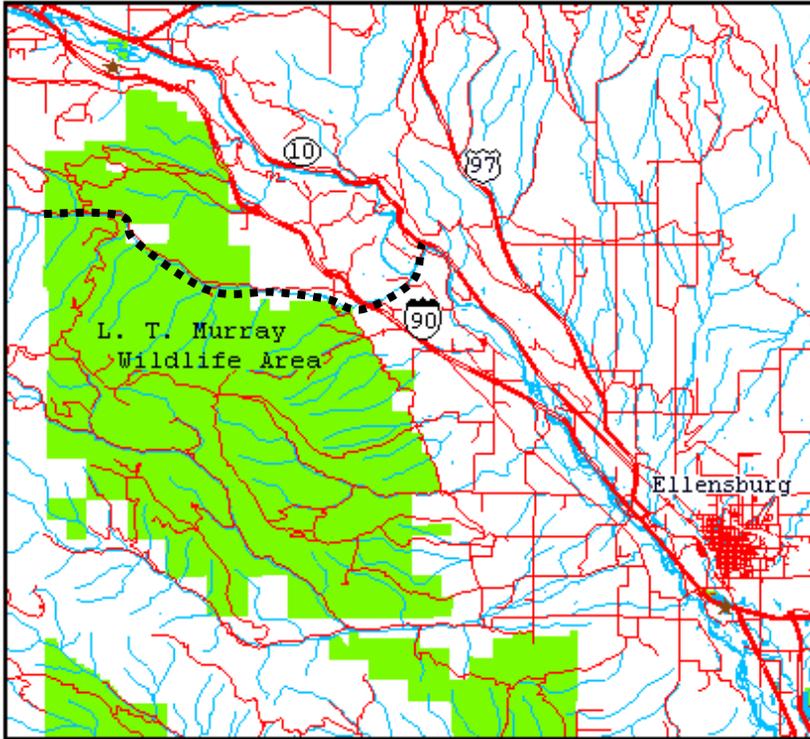


Figure 1. This map illustrates the location of the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area in relation to Interstate 90 and Ellensburg. Taneum Creek is identified with a dotted line; the all treatment reaches will be within the Wildlife Area.

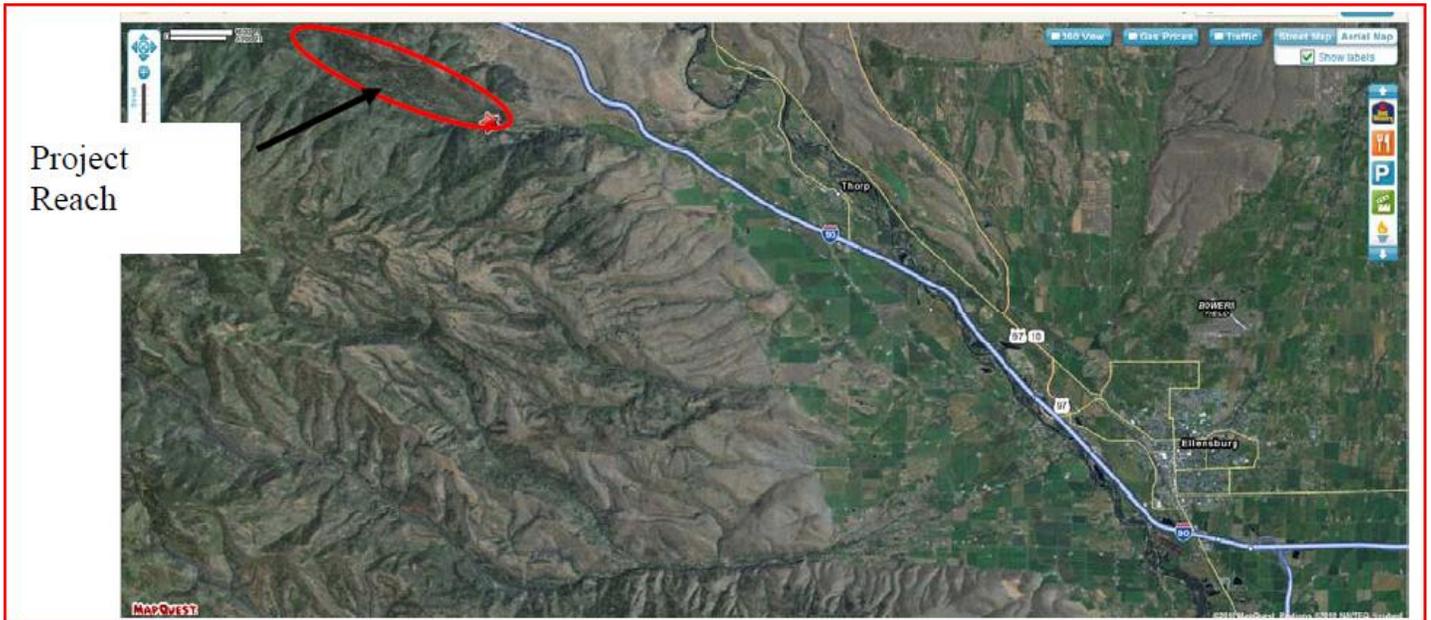


Figure 2. This aerial photo has the project area identified within the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area.

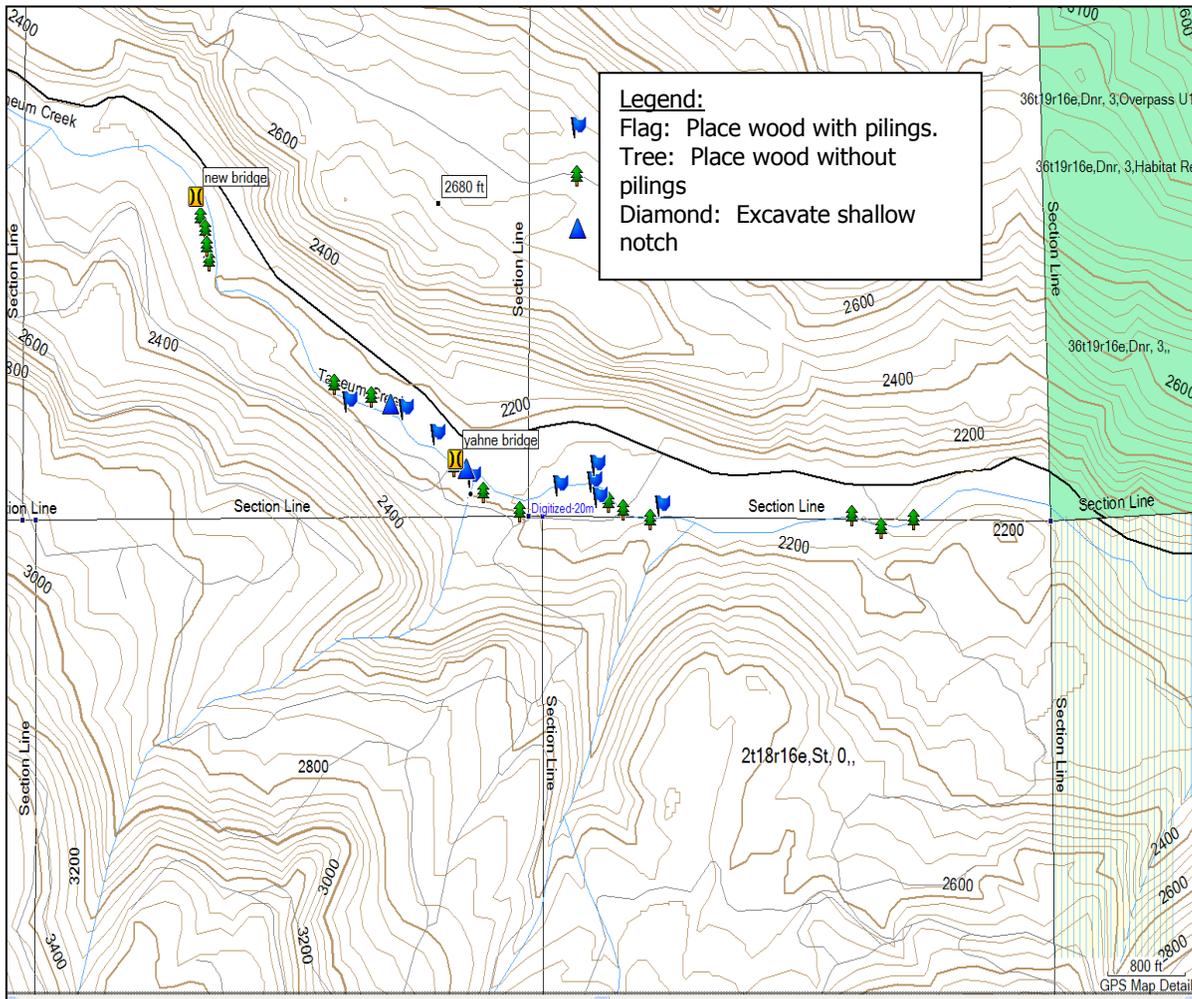


Figure 3. Lowest project reach. The Yahne Bridge, that will be removed, which is located in T19NR16E Section 34.

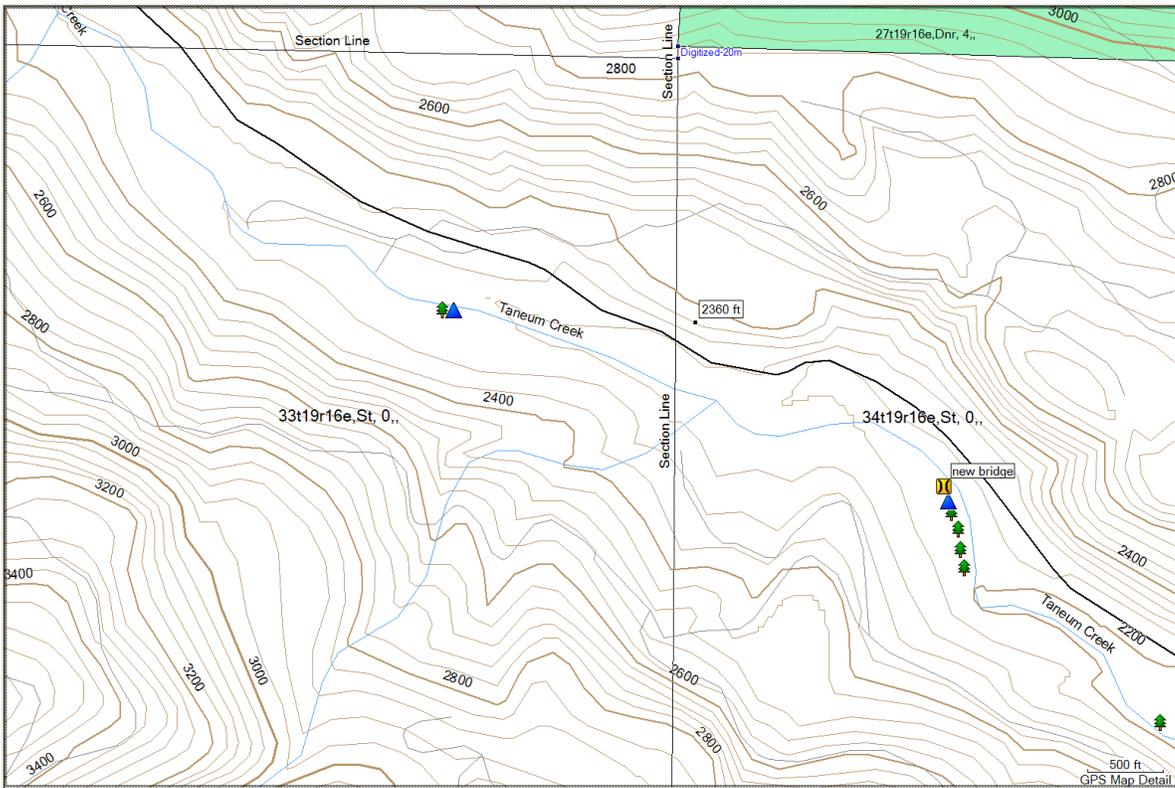


Figure 4. Upstream (west) of Figure 3.

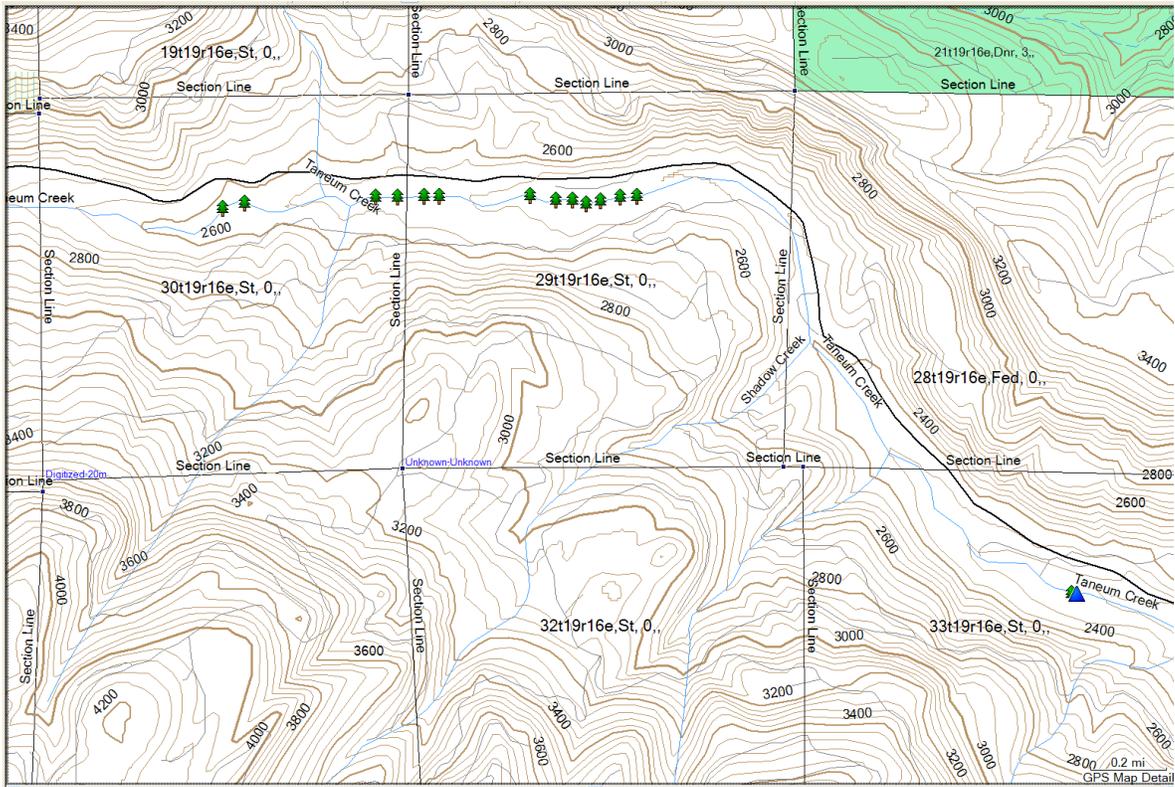


Figure 5. Upstream (northwest) of Figure 4.

B. ENVIRONMENTAL ELEMENTS

1. Earth

a. General description of the site (circle one): Flat, rolling, hilly, steep slopes, mountainous, other . . . . .  
**Hilly with some steep slopes and some flat meadow areas.**

b. What is the steepest slope on the site (approximate percent slope)?  
**90%; no trees will be cut on slopes greater than 70%**

c. What general types of soils are found on the site (for example, clay, sand, gravel, peat, muck)? If you know the classification of agricultural soils, specify them and note any prime farmland.  
**Patnish-Mippon-Myzel complex and Loneridge ashy loam; cobbles, gravels, floodplain alluvium**

d. Are there surface indications or history of unstable soils in the immediate vicinity? If so, describe.  
**The soils appear relatively stable, even on the steep slopes due to the density of vegetation. There are areas of erosion where the creek has removed the toe of the bank. These areas typically have LWD in the channel and seem to be natural processes. The abutments to Yahne Bridge are no longer stable due to scour around them.**

e. Describe the purpose, type, and approximate quantities of any filling or grading proposed. Indicate source of fill.  
**There will be minor grading associated with removal of the Yahne Bridge. The existing parking area will be reduced with removal of Yahne Bridge. There will be approximately 40 cy of temporary fill places to create approaches for the construction access bridge. The bridge and temporary fill will be removed upon completion of bridge and approach fill removal.**

f. Could erosion occur as a result of clearing, construction, or use? If so, generally describe.  
**Not likely to increase erosion because of the limited tree cutting and there will be no vegetation clearing. Roots and stumps will remain intact to maintain soil stability in most cases; roots will only be removed in areas where erosion is not likely and the disturbed areas will be immediately restored. There may be temporary and minor increases in erosion when transporting trees, but these impacts will be temporary and minor. The addition of wood to the active channel will create areas of local scour that enhance stream habitat.**

g. About what percent of the site will be covered with impervious surfaces after project construction (for example, asphalt or buildings)?  
**There will be no new impervious surfaces associated with this project.**

h. Proposed measures to reduce or control erosion, or other impacts to the earth, if any:  
**Heavy equipment routes will be designated and adhered to. Disturbed areas will be stabilized by placement of slash, weed-free straw mulch and/or seeding with native grasses. If erosion occurs in areas of disturbance, labor crews will repair those areas by placing woody material and building water bars.**

2. Air

a. What types of emissions to the air would result from the proposal (i.e., dust, automobile, odors, industrial wood smoke) during construction and when the project is completed? If any, generally describe and give approximate quantities if known.  
**There will be minor emissions from chainsaws, machinery, and pickups driving to the work sites. There will be no additional air emissions upon completion of the project.**

b. Are there any off-site sources of emissions or odor that may affect your proposal? If so, generally describe.

**None known**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control emissions or other impacts to air, if any:

**Equipment will only be on when in operation. Project personnel will carpool to the work areas as much as possible and vehicles will be turned off when not in use.**

### 3. Water

a. Surface:

1) Is there any surface water body on or in the immediate vicinity of the site (including year-round and seasonal streams, saltwater, lakes, ponds, wetlands)? If yes, describe type and provide names. If appropriate, state what stream or river it flows into.

**Yes, the trees will be placed in Taneum Creek, a tributary to the Yakima River and a Shoreline of the State. In addition, there are several perennial streams (tributaries to Taneum Creek) within the proposed project area.**

2) Will the project require any work over, in, or adjacent to (within 200 feet) the described waters? If yes, please describe and attach available plans.

**Yes, most of the LWD will be placed within 200 feet of the ordinary high water mark of Taneum Creek following recommendations for wood replenishment in Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife's Stream Habitat Restoration Guidelines (2004). Trees may be thinned from areas within 200 feet of Taneum Creek or its tributaries where the creeks will not be negatively impacted with their removal. The Yahne bridge removal and pedestrian bridge construction will occur around the active channel of Taneum Creek. There are three areas within the channel that will require minor excavation to encourage side channel activation.**

3) Estimate the amount of fill and dredge material that would be placed in or removed from surface water or wetlands and indicate the area of the site that would be affected. Indicate the source of fill material.

**Less than 50 cubic yards of floodplain alluvium will be excavated to encourage side channel activation. This material will be placed in other areas of the floodplain, to promote future gravel recruitment. Approximately 400 cubic yards of material will be removed from the Yahne Bridge and associated fill. The first 50 feet south from Road 33 will remain to provide a parking area.**

4) Will the proposal require surface water withdrawals or diversions? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

**No.**

5) Does the proposal lie within a 100-year floodplain? If so, note location on the site plan.

**Yes, all of the restoration work will occur within the 100-year floodplain of Taneum Creek with the exception of some of the tree thinning.**

6) Does the proposal involve any discharges of waste materials to surface waters? If so, describe the type of waste and anticipated volume of discharge.

**There may be minor increases in turbidity from instream large wood placement work, but this is not expected to result in measurable impacts to water quality. Hydraulic lines will be filled with biodegradable fluids to minimize impacts if a line breaks during implementation.**

b. Ground:

1) Will ground water be withdrawn, or will water be discharged to ground water? Give general description, purpose, and approximate quantities if known.

**No**

2) Describe waste material that will be discharged into the ground from septic tanks or other sources, if any (for example: Domestic sewage; industrial, containing the following chemicals. . . ; agricultural; etc.). Describe the general size of the system, the number of such systems, the number of houses to be served (if applicable), or the number of animals or humans the system(s) are expected to serve.

**None, not applicable**

c. Water runoff (including stormwater):

1) Describe the source of runoff (including storm water) and method of collection and disposal, if any (include quantities, if known). Where will this water flow? Will this water flow into other waters? If so, describe.

**This project is not likely to impact the amount or material associated with runoff, including storm water runoff events. Ground disturbance will be minimal and there will be no impervious surfaces that might impact runoff and/or storm water management.**

2) Could waste materials enter ground or surface waters? If so, generally describe.

**There is a chance that petroleum products could leak from chainsaws or vehicles onto the ground. All equipment will be kept in good working condition to minimize this risk. Refueling will occur at least 150 feet away from the ordinary high water mark and machinery within the channel will have biodegradable fluids in hydraulic lines.**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control surface, ground, and runoff water impacts, if any:

**The project is planned to enhance habitat, and best management practices will be applied to reduce impacts to water quality. The project will jump start natural processes associated with the recruitment of trees into the stream channel and the hydrologic changes that result from such LWD structures. By increasing pool frequency and floodplain function, stream temperatures in Taneum creek will likely remain cooler during the warm, dry summer months.**

#### 4. Plants

a. Check or circle types of vegetation found on the site:

\_\_\_\_\_ deciduous tree: **alder, maple, aspen**, other

\_\_\_\_\_ evergreen tree: **fir, cedar, pine**, other

\_\_\_\_\_ **shrubs**

\_\_\_\_\_ **grass**

\_\_\_\_\_ pasture

\_\_\_\_\_ crop or grain

\_\_\_\_\_ wet soil plants: cattail, **buttercup, bullrush**, skunk cabbage, other

\_\_\_\_\_ water plants: water lily, eelgrass, milfoil, other

\_\_\_\_\_ other types of vegetation

b. What kind and amount of vegetation will be removed or altered?

**Douglas fir and true fir trees will be thinned from a four acre upland parcel as approved by WDNR under the Forest Practices Application. LWD will be placed into the creek at various locations throughout the 7-mile stretch of Taneum Creek; there will be some disturbance to shrubs and ground vegetation as the trees are placed into the channel and floodplain. Forest thinning will occur in areas with current roads and skid trails to minimize disturbance.**

c. List threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

**Ute ladies'-tresses are federally listed as threatened, but are not known to be present in Kittitas County.**

Wenatchee mountain checker mallow are federally and state listed as endangered, but are not known to be present in the Taneum Watershed.

d. Proposed landscaping, use of native plants, or other measures to preserve or enhance vegetation on the site, if any:

The addition of large wood to the creek channel will create new braided channels, thereby enhancing the wetland/riparian buffer around Taneum Creek. In the fall of 2010 and/or spring of 2011, clusters of native riparian vegetation will be planted in additional areas to further enhance riparian habitat. Disturbed areas will be planted with native vegetation suitable to the site conditions, including seeding with native grasses.

## 5. Animals

a. Circle any birds and animals which have been observed on or near the site or are known to be on or near the site:

birds: hawk, heron, eagle, songbirds, other: owls

mammals: deer, bear, elk, cougar, beaver, other: small mammals

fish: bass, salmon, trout, herring, shellfish, other: native minnows, suckers, sculpin

b. List any threatened or endangered species known to be on or near the site.

**Mardon skipper-butterfly-State listed as Endangered**

**Bull trout-fish-Federally listed as Threatened, State listed as Candidate**

**MCR Steelhead-fish- Federally listed as Threatened, State listed as Candidate**

**Northern leopard frog-amphibian-State listed as Endangered**

**Bald eagle-bird-State listed as Threatened**

**Northern Spotted Owl-bird-Federally listed as Threatened, State listed as Endangered**

**Western gray squirrel-mammal-State listed as Threatened**

**Fisher-mammal- State listed as Endangered**

**Gray Wolf-mammal-Federally listed as Endangered, State listed as Endangered**

**Grizzly Bear-mammal-Federally listed as Threatened, State listed as Endangered**

**Canada Lynx-mammal-Federally listed as Threatened, State listed as Threatened**

BMPs will be implemented such that impacts to these species will be minimized with implementation of this project. Although not listed as threatened or endangered, Northern Goshawks occur in the Taneum Watershed and best management practices will be implemented to avoid any negative impacts to their nesting sites.

The project is on the northern edge of the elk winter closure area and some work may occur during the closure period. However, the project will occur toward the very end of the closure period, well north of the feed sites where the elk are concentrated.

c. Is the site part of a migration route? If so, explain.

Yes, Taneum Creek supports steelhead that migrate through the project reach to spawning areas upstream. Additionally, migratory birds and mammals use the watershed for seasonal habitats. The project area is within the wintering area for deer and elk. The surrounding public land ownership provides adequate habitat for a variety of animals throughout the year.

d. Proposed measures to preserve or enhance wildlife, if any:

As proposed, the project will increase the amount of LWD in the channel and will also increase the vigorous riparian thicket that is present along the streambanks, providing additional cover for many songbirds and other wildlife species. The increased pool frequency and channel complexity due to the LWD will greatly enhance the instream habitat for threatened salmonids such as steelhead and bull trout. Thinning the Douglas and grand fir from the Ponderosa Pine stands will enhance the native forest species and help return the area to a state more similar to its pre-disturbance state. The project is designed as a habitat enhancement project and no long-term negative impacts to wildlife are anticipated.

## 6. Energy and natural resources

- a. What kinds of energy (electric, natural gas, oil, wood stove, solar) will be used to meet the completed project's energy needs? Describe whether it will be used for heating, manufacturing, etc.

**Upon completion, there will be no need for an energy source at the project site.**

- b. Would your project affect the potential use of solar energy by adjacent properties? If so, generally describe.

**Not applicable; the project area is surrounded by public lands, unlikely to need solar energy capabilities. Regardless, the proposed project would not likely affect the potential use of solar energy.**

- c. What kinds of energy conservation features are included in the plans of this proposal? List other proposed measures to reduce or control energy impacts, if any:

**Upon completion, there will be no consumptive uses of energy or natural resources.**

## 7. Environmental health

- a. Are there any environmental health hazards, including exposure to toxic chemicals, risk of fire and explosion, spill, or hazardous waste that could occur as a result of this proposal? If so, describe.

**There is a slight risk of fire caused by use of the chainsaws to fall the trees. The machinery and equipment also pose a potential risk of a petroleum spill during refueling or if the gas tanks leaks. All equipment will be kept in good working condition to reduce the risks of a chemical spill or sparks causing a fire. Biodegradable fluids will be in the hydraulic lines of equipment working within the floodplain.**

- 1) Describe special emergency services that might be required.

**Due to the nature of the activity, there is a chance that emergency personnel such as EMT, fire fighters, and sheriff's deputies may need to respond to the project area during implementation.**

- 2) Proposed measures to reduce or control environmental health hazards, if any:

**All equipment using petroleum products will be in good working condition and spill containment kits will be onsite at all times.**

## b. Noise

- 1) What types of noise exist in the area which may affect your project (for example: traffic, equipment, operation, other)?

**Limited vehicular noise from Taneum Road.**

- 2) What types and levels of noise would be created by or associated with the project on a short-term or a long-term basis (for example: traffic, construction, operation, other)? Indicate what hours noise would come from the site.

**The short-term noise associated with this project will include chainsaws and tree falling, skidders, log trucks, tractors, excavators, screens, large trucks, and additional vehicles bringing work crews to the project sites during implementation. There will be no long-term increase in noise due to this project.**

- 3) Proposed measures to reduce or control noise impacts, if any:

**All equipment will be turned off when not in use and will only be used during normal working days during the daylight hours.**

**Traffic noise will be reduced by carpooling as much as possible to the project sites.**

## 8. Land and shoreline use

- a. What is the current use of the site and adjacent properties?

**The property throughout the project area is owned and managed by Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife as part of the L.T. Murray Wildlife Area.**

b. Has the site been used for agriculture? If so, describe.

**Historical land uses included timber harvest, livestock grazing, and limited hay production. Agricultural practices are still in use on private properties downstream from WDFW management.**

c. Describe any structures on the site.

**Yahne Bridge, which is now closed to vehicular traffic, is in Section 34. Taneum Road is adjacent to the creek in some portions of the project, but it will not be impacted because the road is above the maximum flood elevation and the streambank where proximate to the road is armored.**

d. Will any structures be demolished? If so, what?

**Yes, the defunct Yahne Bridge and the associated approach fill will be removed.**

e. What is the current zoning classification of the site?

**Commercial Forest**

f. What is the current comprehensive plan designation of the site?

**Commercial Forest**

g. If applicable, what is the current shoreline master program designation of the site?

**Conservancy**

h. Has any part of the site been classified as an "environmentally sensitive" area? If so, specify.

**Yes, there are some wetland meadows throughout the project reach. Additionally, the project area provides fish and wildlife habitat for several culturally and ecologically important species.**

i. Approximately how many people would reside or work in the completed project?

**None**

j. Approximately how many people would the completed project displace?

**None**

k. Proposed measures to avoid or reduce displacement impacts, if any:

**Not applicable**

l. Proposed measures to ensure the proposal is compatible with existing and projected land uses and plans, if any:

**In addition to completing the proper review and obtaining the appropriate authorizations from the federal, state, and local government, the WDFW wildlife area manager and forester support the project. There will be no change to the existing land use because of this project. The downstream end of the project is +/- 1000 feet upstream of the private ownerships that begin at the Section 35/36 boundary.**

## **9. Housing**

a. Approximately how many units would be provided, if any? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**None, not applicable**

b. Approximately how many units, if any, would be eliminated? Indicate whether high, middle, or low-income housing.

**None, not applicable**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control housing impacts, if any:

**None, not applicable**

#### 10. Aesthetics

a. What is the tallest height of any proposed structure(s), not including antennas; what is the principal exterior building material(s) proposed?

**The tallest LWD structure would not be likely to exceed six feet above the ordinary high water line. Some of the trees may be chained together to increase stability.**

b. What views in the immediate vicinity would be altered or obstructed?

**None, tree thinning is not likely to increase views because trees will only be cut in areas of dense vegetation and stream shading will not be reduced.**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control aesthetic impacts, if any:

**There will be no new human-made material associated with this project. The project is planned to expedite the natural processes of large woody debris recruitment into the creek and the associated hydrological changes with such structures.**

#### 11. Light and glare

a. What type of light or glare will the proposal produce? What time of day would it mainly occur?

**There could be some glare from machinery during daylight hours while the project is being constructed.**

b. Could light or glare from the finished project be a safety hazard or interfere with views?

**No**

c. What existing off-site sources of light or glare may affect your proposal?

**None**

d. Proposed measures to reduce or control light and glare impacts, if any:

**None, not applicable**

#### 12. Recreation

a. What designated and informal recreational opportunities are in the immediate vicinity?

**The project area is within public lands that are heavily used throughout most of the year. Hunters, anglers, hikers, birdwatchers, mountain bikers, and campers use the L.T. Wildlife Area and the Forest Service property upstream of the proposed project area throughout the year.**

b. Would the proposed project displace any existing recreational uses? If so, describe.

**No, the project will have no long-term impact on existing recreational uses. Pedestrian access will be shifted from the defunct Yahne Bridge to a pedestrian bridge located upstream. Angling opportunities are expected to increase throughout the project area as the instream habitat is enhanced. Noise associated with project implementation may impact wildlife movement in the short-term.**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts on recreation, including recreation opportunities to be provided by the project or applicant, if any:

**The project is proposed for implementation during the time when there will be the least environmental impacts and the least impacts on recreational uses.**

**13. Historic and cultural preservation**

a. Are there any places or objects listed on, or proposed for, national, state, or local preservation registers known to be on or next to the site? If so, generally describe.

**None known.**

b. Generally describe any landmarks or evidence of historic, archaeological, scientific, or cultural importance known to be on or next to the site.

**The project area includes a decommissioned railway bed.**

c. Proposed measures to reduce or control impacts, if any:

**Ground disturbance will be minimized during project implementation and a cultural resources specialist from the Yakama Nation will survey the area.**

**14. Transportation**

a. Identify public streets and highways serving the site, and describe proposed access to the existing street system. Show on site plans, if any.

**Taneum Road is adjacent to Taneum Creek throughout the project reach and it will be used to access each treatment area.**

b. Is site currently served by public transit? If not, what is the approximate distance to the nearest transit stop?

**No, there is no public transit available in most of Kittitas County and this is in a remote area.**

c. How many parking spaces would the completed project have? How many would the project eliminate?

**Parking areas will remain at the Yahne bridge location; although the area will be slightly smaller to restore floodplain function and parking will be provided at the new pedestrian bridge site.**

d. Will the proposal require any new roads or streets, or improvements to existing roads or streets, not including driveways? If so, generally describe (indicate whether public or private).

**No. Treatment areas will be accessed through existing roadways and access points as much as possible. Some off-road access may occur as approved by the wildlife area manager.**

e. Will the project use (or occur in the immediate vicinity of) water, rail, or air transportation? If so, generally describe.

**No**

f. How many vehicular trips per day would be generated by the completed project? If known, indicate when peak volumes would occur.

**None, not applicable**

g. Proposed measures to reduce or control transportation impacts, if any:

**Not applicable**

**15. Public services**

a. Would the project result in an increased need for public services (for example: fire protection, police protection, health care, schools, other)? If so, generally describe.

**No**

b. Proposed measures to reduce or control direct impacts on public services, if any.

**Not applicable**

**16. Utilities**

a. Circle utilities currently available at the site: electricity, natural gas, water, refuse service, telephone, sanitary sewer, septic system, other.

**None**

b. Describe the utilities that are proposed for the project, the utility providing the service, and the general construction activities on the site or in the immediate vicinity, which might be needed.

**None**

**C. SIGNATURE**

The above answers are true and complete to the best of my knowledge. I understand that the lead agency is relying on them to make its decision.

Signature: ON FILE – SHANA WINEGEART, AREA MANAGER

Signature:

Date Submitted: 6/2/2010

Additional Information



Figure 6. Depiction of pedestrian bridge design that will be utilized. Note: placement of angular rock will not occur on this project.



Figure 7. Picture of the defunct Yahne Bridge