5. Lands 20/20 - Briefing

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Lands Division Manager, Wildlife Program

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Lands 20/20 Coordinator



Lands 20/20 Introduction

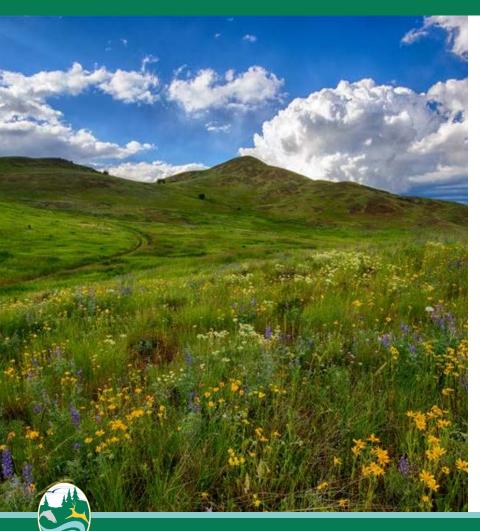
Lands 20/20: A Clear Vision for the Future "Protecting our unique quality of life by maintaining a citizen-supported portfolio of lands to sustain Washington's diverse fish and wildlife and their habitats into the next century."



- 1. Why?
- 2. How?
- 3. What?
- 4. Next Steps



Why Does WDFW Buy Land? Protecting Land and Water for Wildlife and People



In service to our Mission

RCW 79a.15 – Acquisition of Habitat Conservation and Outdoor Recreation Lands

"It is therefore the policy of the state to acquire as soon as possible the most significant lands for wildlife conservation and outdoor recreation purposes before they are converted to other uses, and to develop existing public recreational land and facilities to meet the needs of present and future generations."

Specifically, to:

- Conserve and restore the diversity of Washington's fish and wildlife species and habitats
- Enhance sustainable fishing, hunting and other wildlife-related outdoor opportunities
- Improve management of current WDFW Lands
- Preserve opportunity for continued working lands for agriculture, forestry, and other sectors of the outdoor economy, when and where compatible

Questions WDFW Asks (Lands 20/20 Application) Protecting Land and Water for Wildlife and People



- Willing seller
- Fee title/conservation easement
- Compelling goal, conservation value
- Threat/risk
- Climate change risk (infrastructure, species, habitat)
- Planning integration
- Strategic Acquisition Priorities
- Species/Habitat plans
- Recreation value
- Cost of Stewardship/Management
- Weed management needs
- Real Estate due diligence
- Known hazards/risks
- Water rights/fences/culverts, etc.
- Partnerships/local support/outreach





Goal 1: Conserve and protect native fish and wildlife:

Critical Habitat for Specific Species

- Winter range for ungulates in eastern WA
- Priority habitat for ESA listed salmon, steelhead and bull trout
- Listed species: pygmy rabbit, sage and sharp-tailed grouse
- Columbian white-tailed deer, Western gray squires, nest sites for golden eagles or Ferruginous hawks



Goal 2: Provide sustainable fishing, hunting and other wildlife-related recreational and commercial experiences

- Provide access to water and lands already held in public ownership
- Secure private lands historically open to public recreation
- Secure access to marine shorelines for fishing and shellfish harvest
- Expand freshwater boat access (Lower Spokane, Lower Columbia)
- Secure lands that provide quality hunting opportunities and wildlife watching opportunities.



Goal 3: Promote a healthy economy, protect community character, maintain an overall high quality of life, and deliver high quality customer service

Goal 4: Build an effective and efficient organization by supporting our workforce, improving business processes, and investing in technology

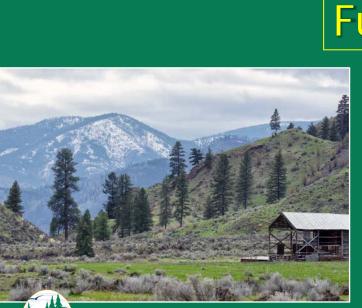
- Prevent or ameliorate wildlife damage or conflicts
- Provide or maintain administrative access
- Achieve shared goals with partners (open spaces as part of GMA/SMA, community character)
- Secure private in-holdings to support management of existing WDFW-managed lands
- Secure access to lands needed to maintain hatchery intake structure or other necessary hatchery infrastructure

Acquisition Steps

Scoping and Need

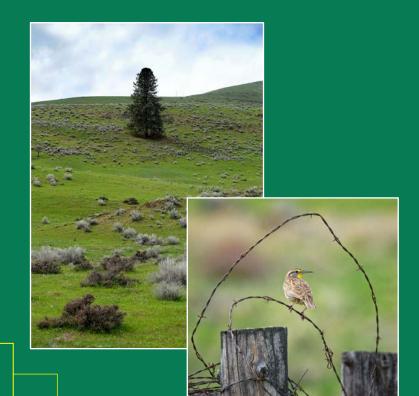
Lands 20/20

Funding



Land Transaction

> Integrating Ownership



Acquisition Steps

Scoping and Need

Lands 20/20

Funding







Land Transaction

> Integrating Ownership



Lands 20/20 Policy and Procedure

Policy 6010 Acquiring and Disposing of Real Property

- All acquisitions require Lands 20/20 assessment and approval
- Exempt vs Expedited Review



Lands 20/20 Standard Operating Procedure

- Statewide coordinator/ Lands agents in regions
- Standard application
- Cross-programmatic review in regions
- Statewide technical review
- EMT review
- Tribal preview and consultation
- Public review
- Commission briefing
- Director's decision
- Approval through the sixth year

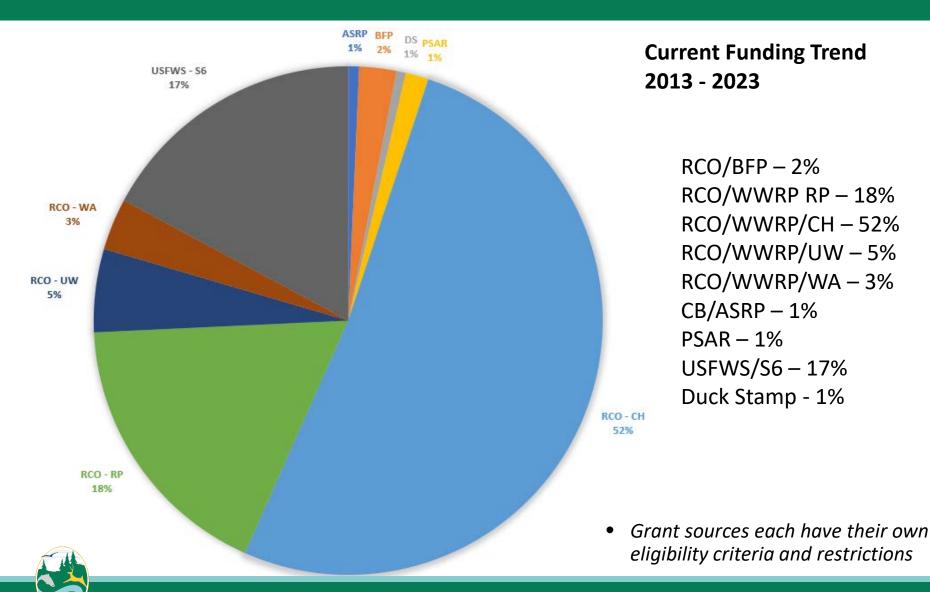


Lands 20/20 Key Components

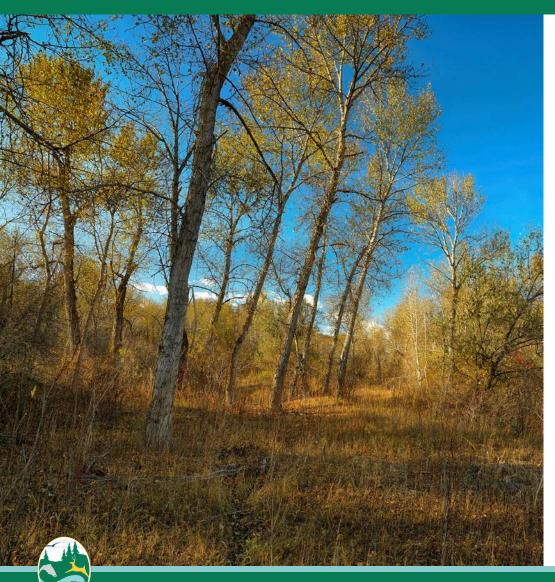


- Fish and Wildlife, Habitat conservation value
- Landscape connectivity and restoration value
- Recreation value
- Threat of conversion
- Understanding key elements of ownership (water rights, fish passage, other management challenges)
- Outreach to tribes, local community, and public interests and perspectives

Acquisition Funding Sources

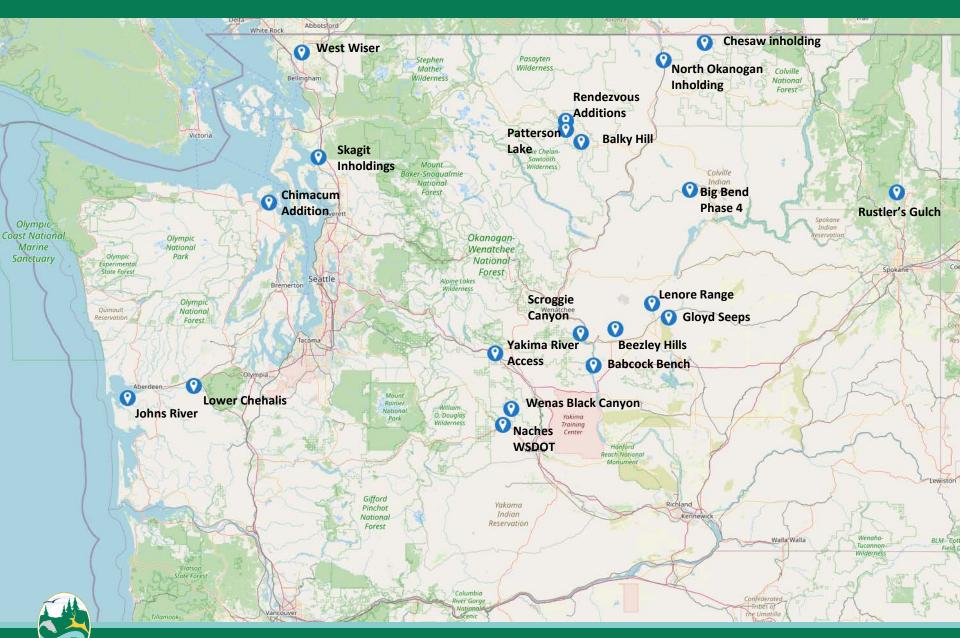


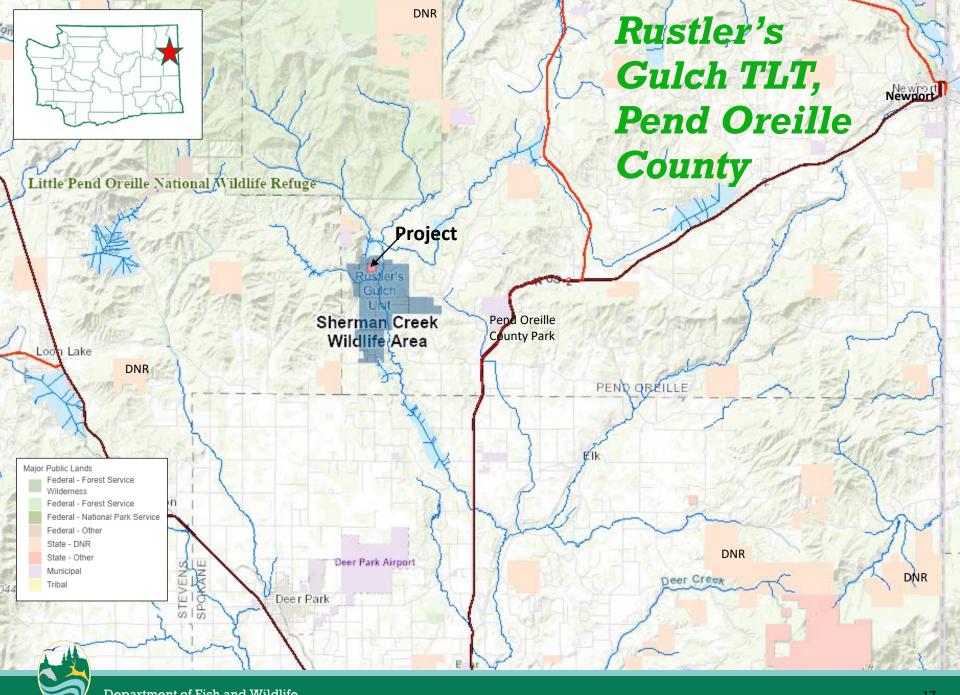
Lands Transaction Steps

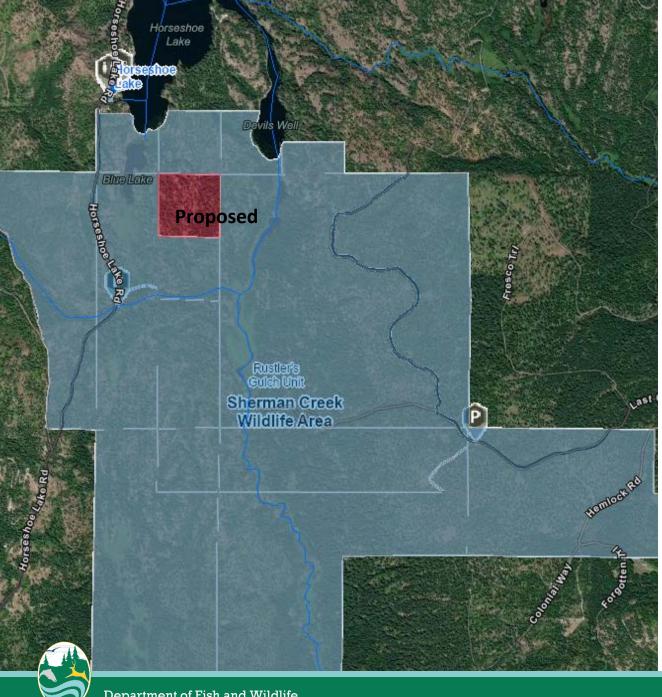


- Letter of Intent
- Due Diligence:
 - Title review
 - Water rights review
 - Culvert review
 - RMAP review
 - Environmental site assessment
 - Baseline inventory
- Appraisal and Review Appraisal
 - Just compensation
- Offer/negotiation
- Tribal consultation
- Commission approval
- Open escrow/close
- Post-closing

2023 Lands 20/20 Projects

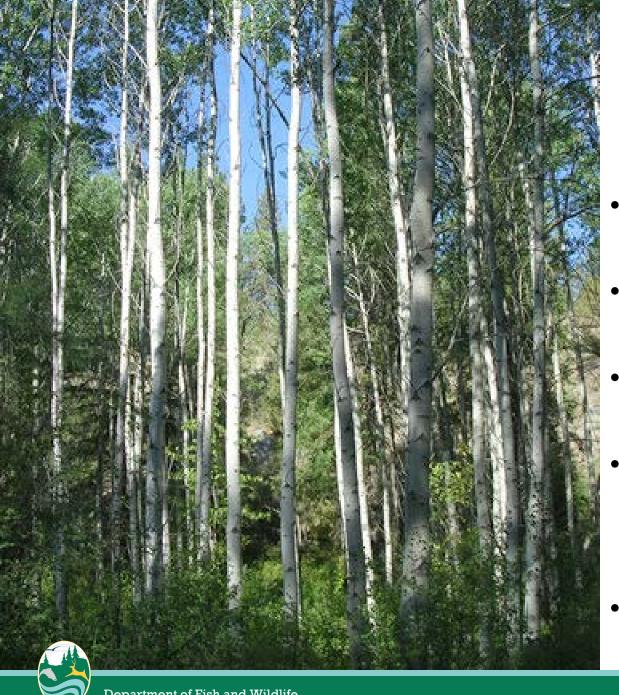






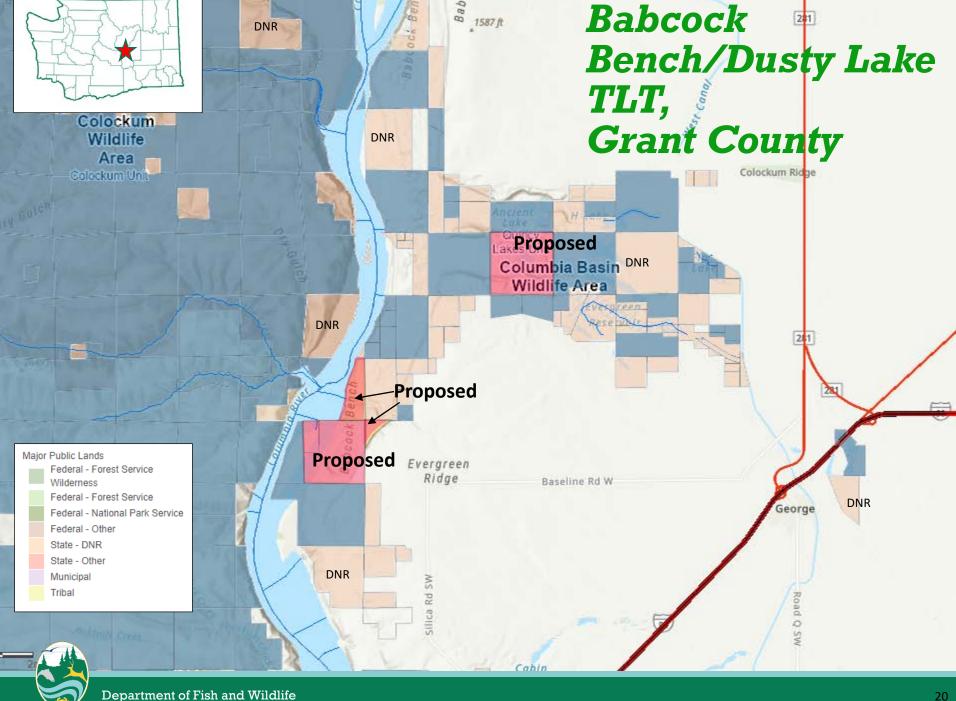
Rustler's Gulch TLT, **Pend Oreille** County

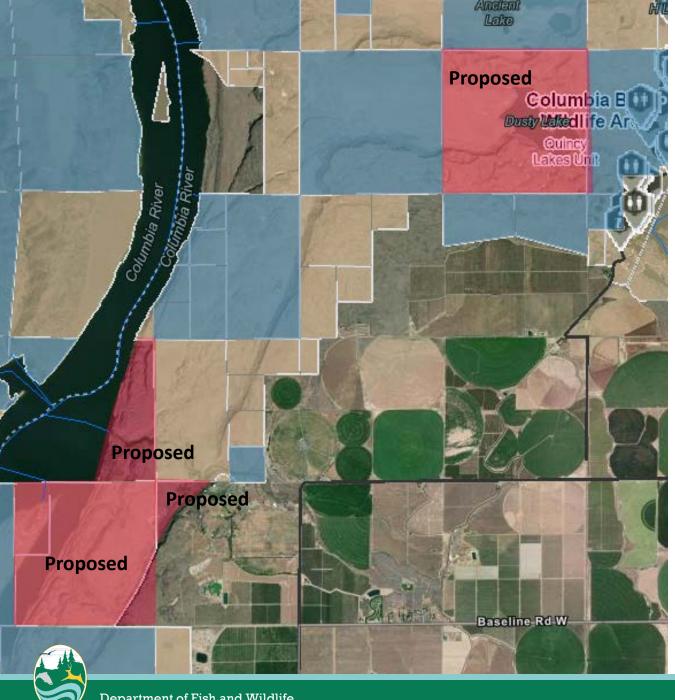
- 40 acres
- **Rustlers Gulch Unit**
- Sherman Creek Wildlife Area



Rustler's Gulch TLT, Pend Oreille County

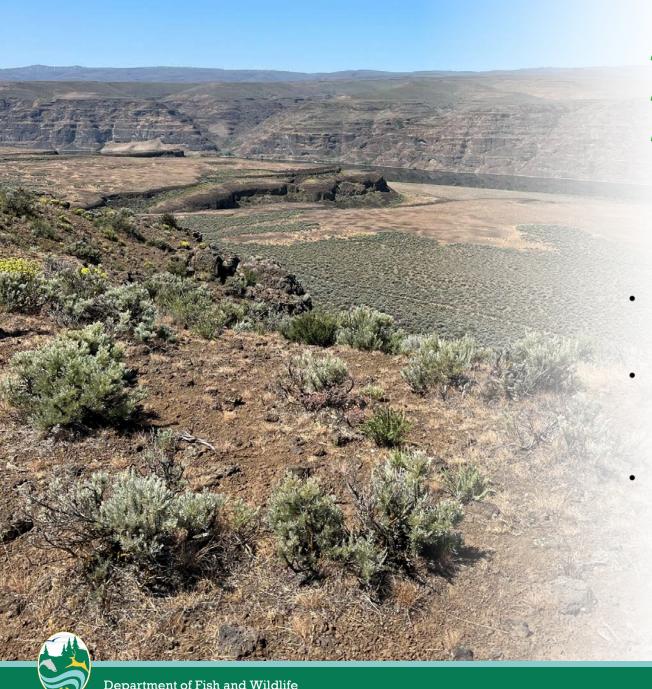
- Inholding to Rustlers Gulch Wildlife Area
- Went through the Lands 20/20 previously and was approved
- Habitat: natural forest & emergent wetland
- Species: Northern goshawk. pileated woodpecker, Lewis' woodpecker, Columbia spotted frog, moose
- Recreation: hunting, hiking, biking, trail running





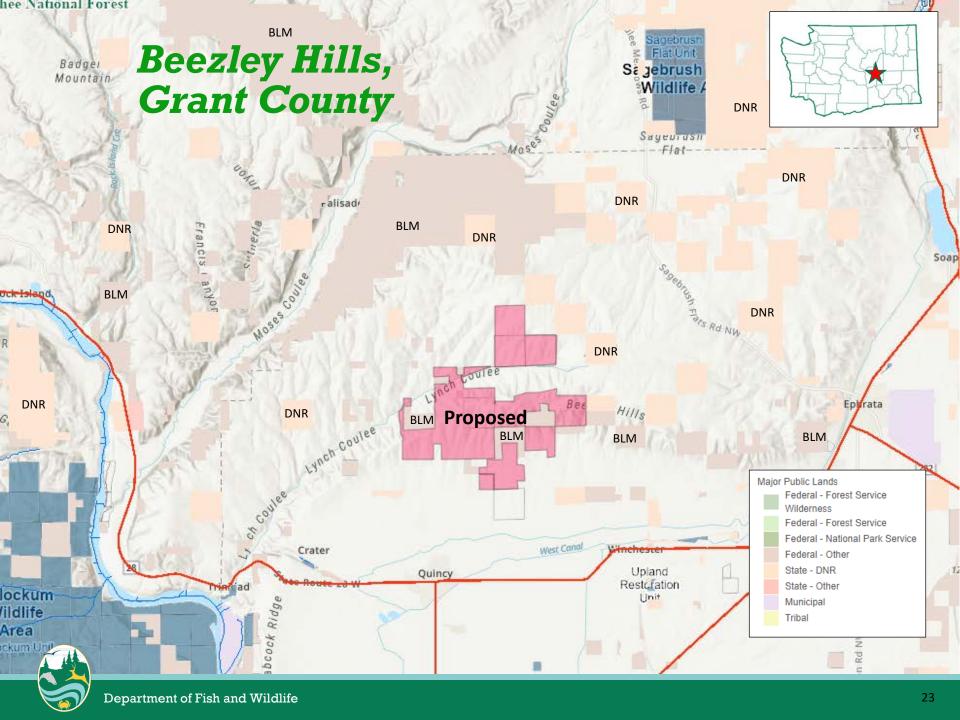
Babcock Bench/Dusty Lake TLT, **Grant County**

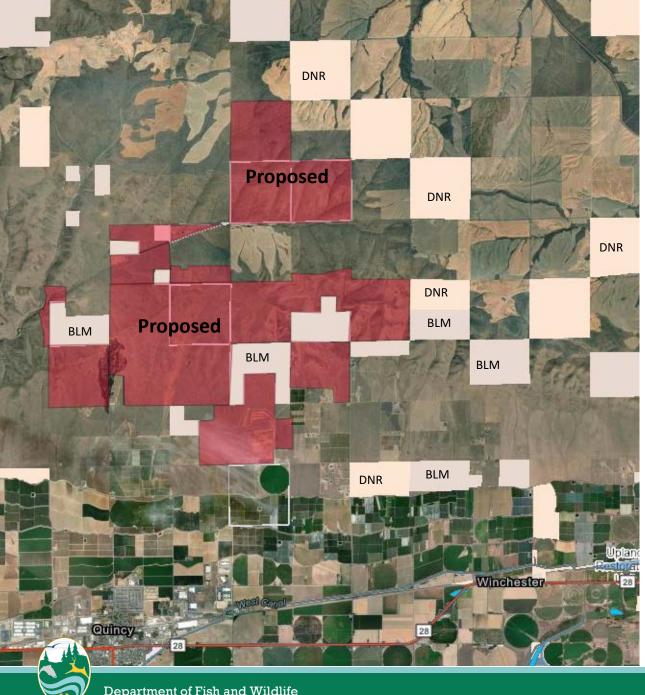
- Up to 1,485 Acres
- Surrounded by the Quincy Lakes Unit, Columbia Basin Wildlife Area



Babcock Bench/Dusty Lake TLT, **Grant County**

- Habitat: basalt cliffs, isolated mesas, stair stepped benches
- Species: Sagebrush sparrow, sagebrush obligates, golden eagle
- Recreation: hunting opportunities, hiking, biking, trail running





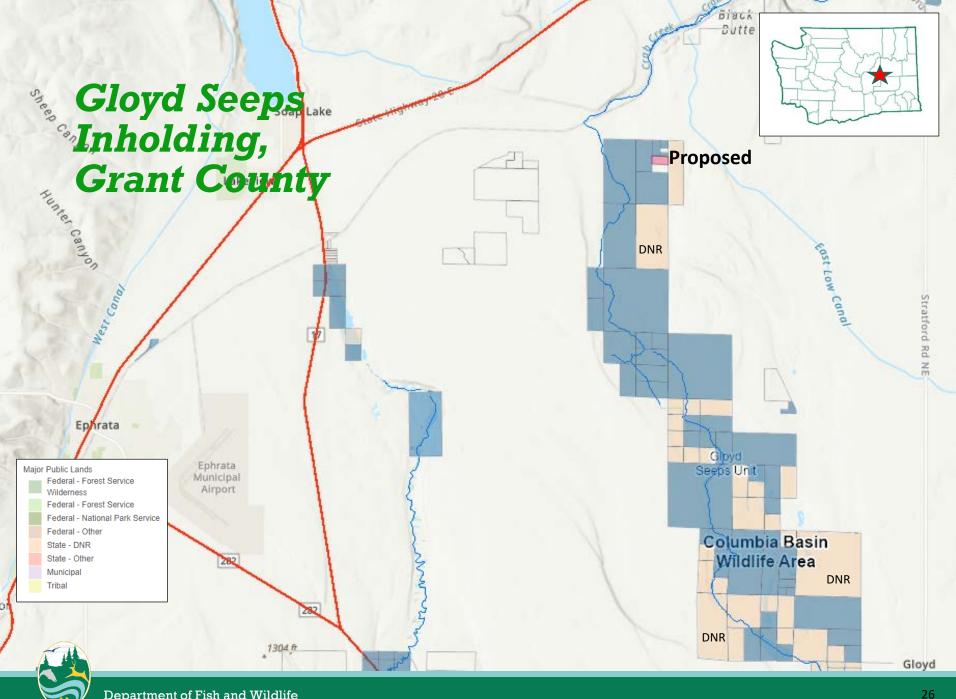
Beezley Hills, **Grant County**

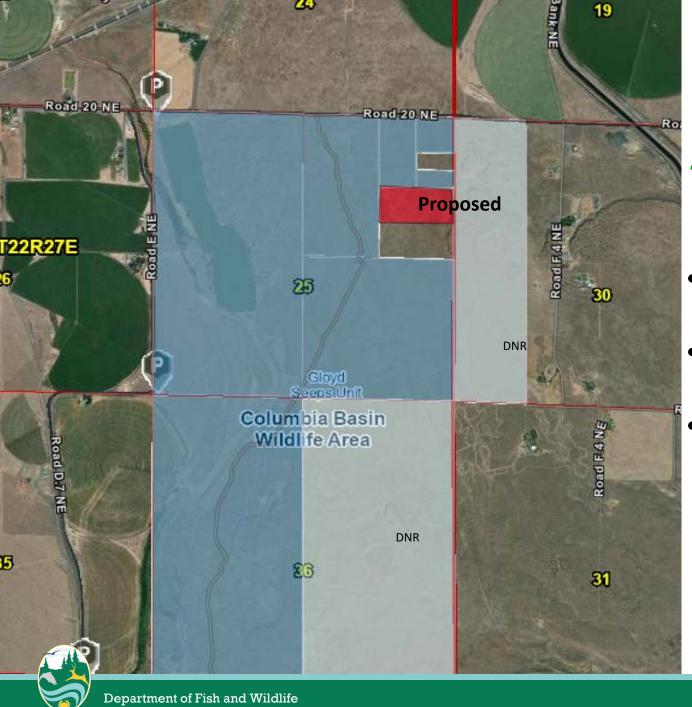
- Up to 9,297 acres
- Beezley Hills Unit
- Columbia Basin Wildlife Area



Beezley Hills, Grant County

- Habitat: Shrub steppe, basalt scablands
- Species: Pygmy rabbit, greater sage grouse, Washington ground squirrel
- Recreation: mule deer hunting, upland bird hunting, wildlife viewing

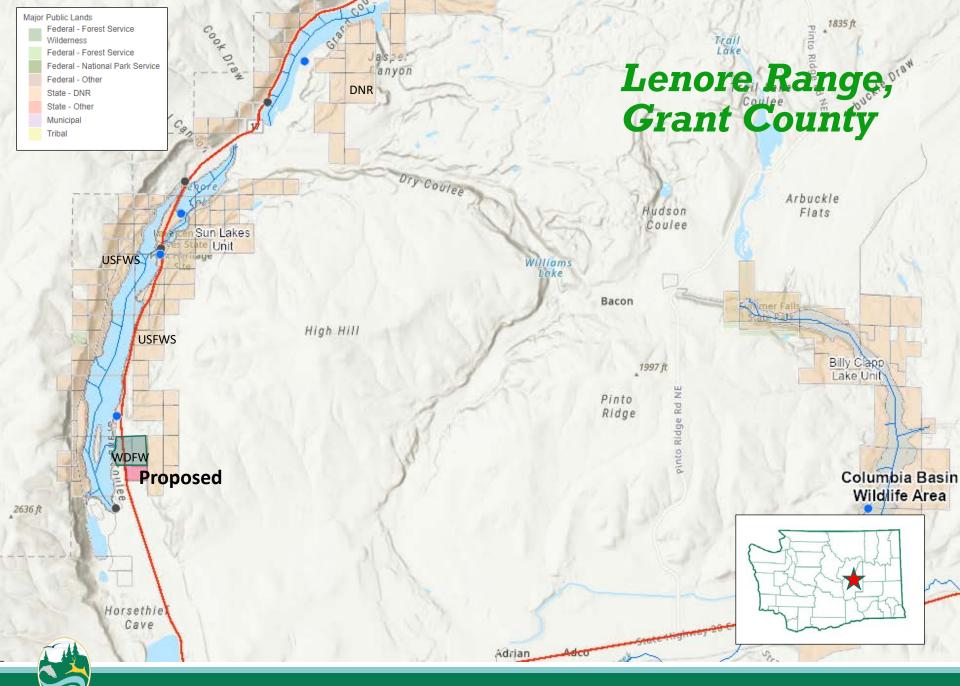




Gloyd Seeps Inholding, Grant County

- 20 acres
- Gloyd Seeps Unit
- Columbia Basin
 Wildlife Area





USFWS 23 Columbia Basin Wildlife Area Sun Lakes Wnit **WDFW** 723R26 **USFWS** 26 25 **Proposed** Department of Fish and Wildlife

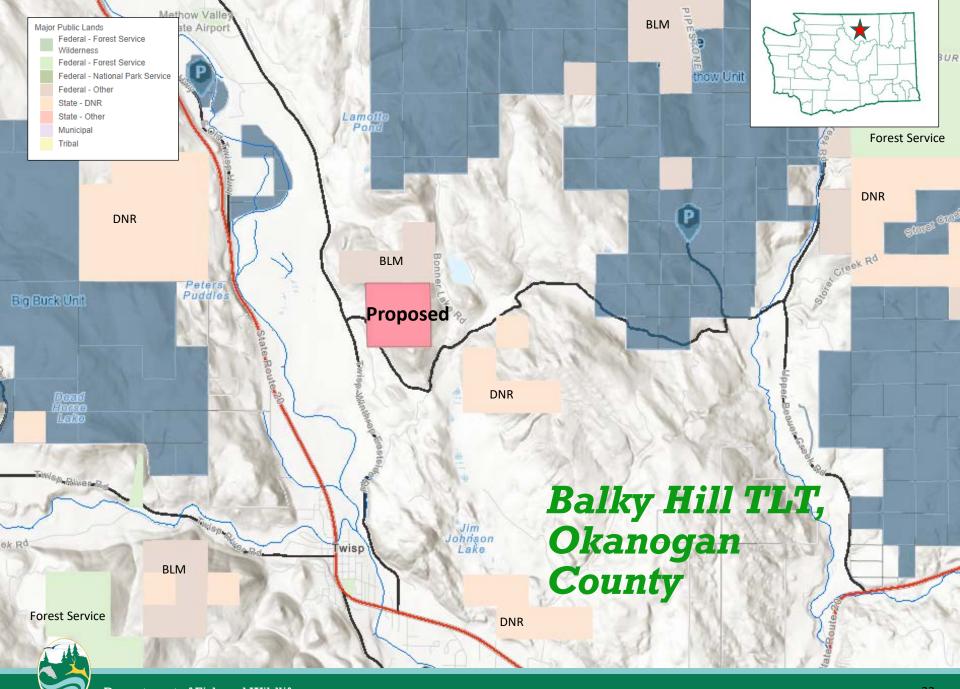
Lenore Range, Grant County

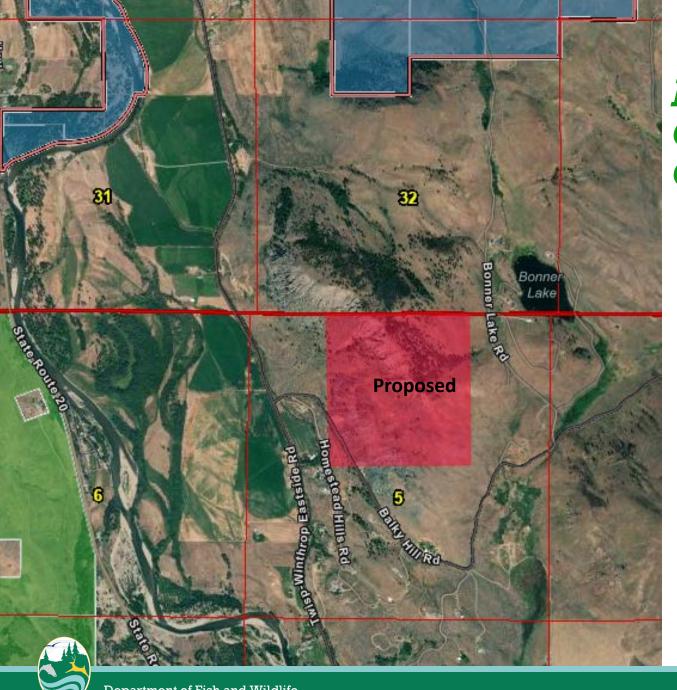
- 56 acres
- Two parcels
- Columbia Basin
 Wildlife Area
- Adjacent to the current Lenore Shooting Range



Lenore Range, Grant County

- Buffer of the current shooting range
- Habitat: basalt cliffs, stair stepped benches, box canyons
- Species: chukar, golden eagles, sage thrashers
- Recreation: hunting, wildlife viewing

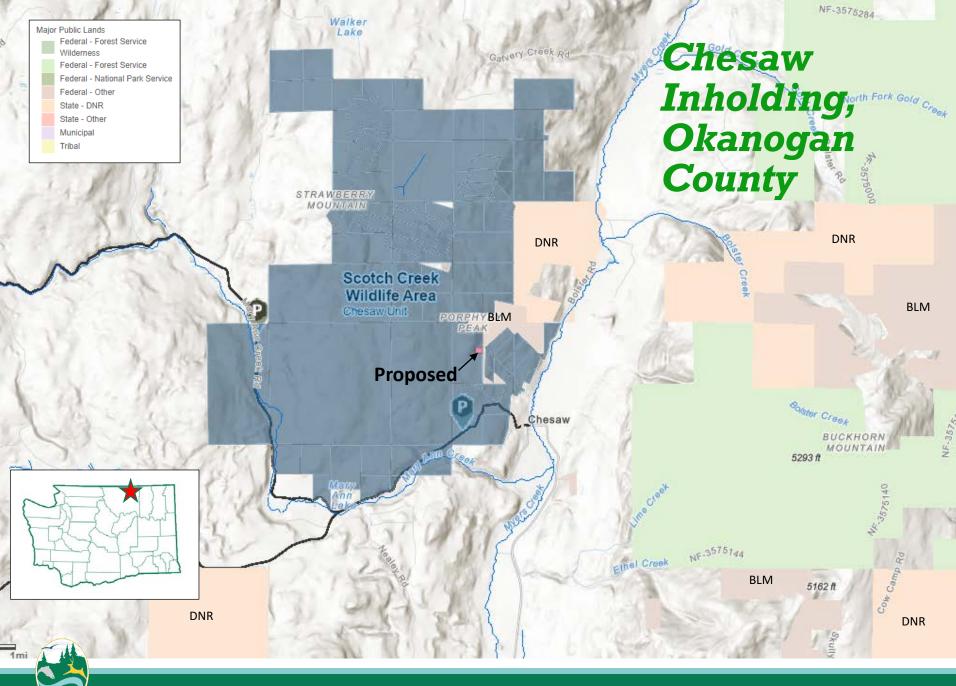


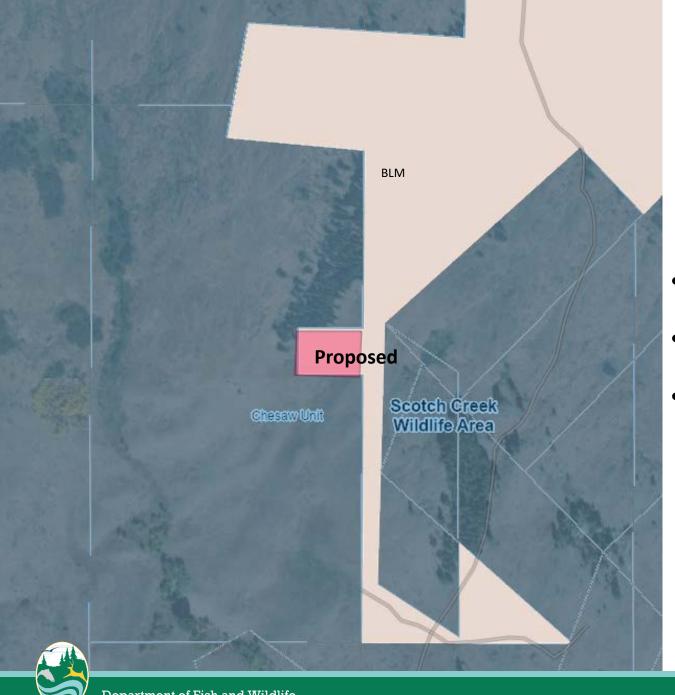


Balky Hill TLT, Okanogan County

- 160 acres
- **Methow Unit**
- Methow Wildlife Area







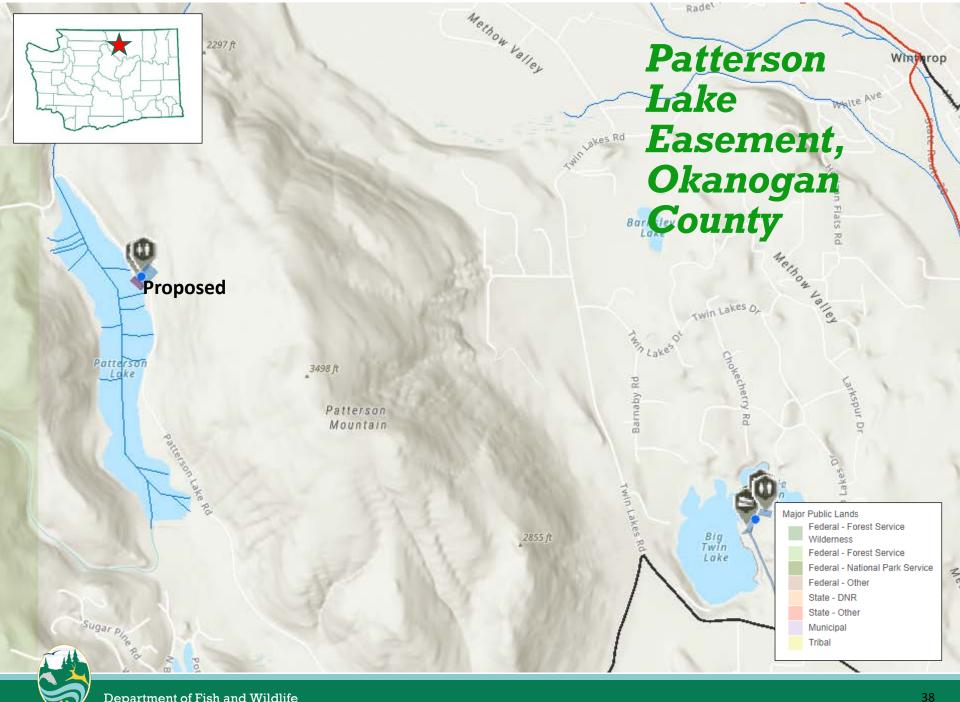
Chesaw Inholding, Okanogan County

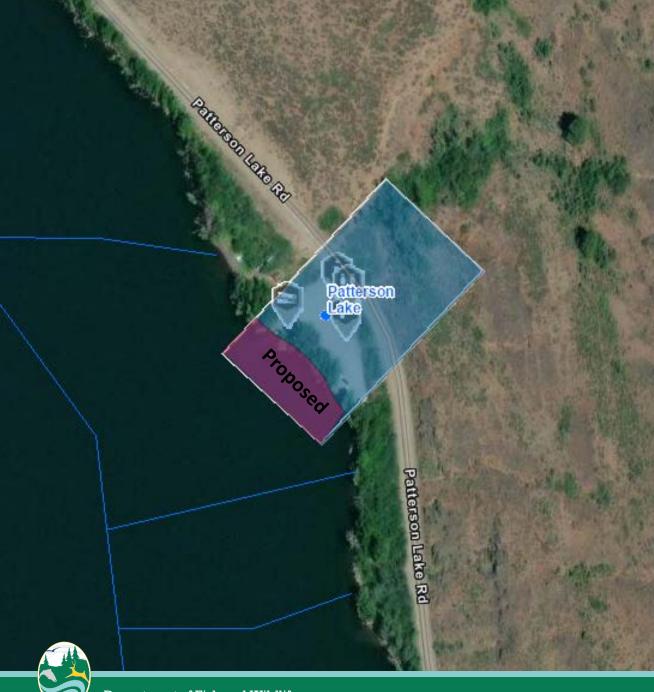
- Two-acre inholding
- **Chesaw Unit**
- Scotch Creek Wildlife Area



Chesaw Inholding, Okanogan County

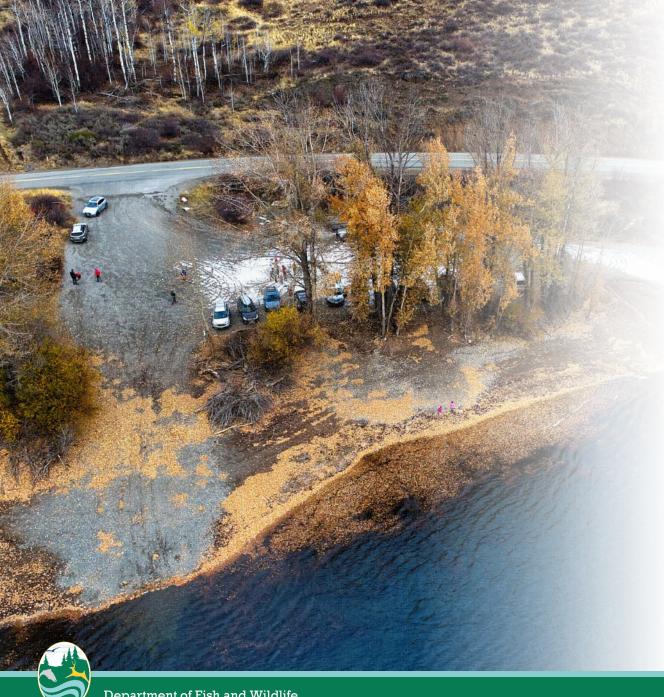
- Habitat: riparian, conifer, high quality shrubsteppe
- Species: mule deer, elk, small mammal populations, wolves, golden eagles
- Sharp-tailed grouse lek sites
- Recreation: hunting, wildlife viewing opportunities





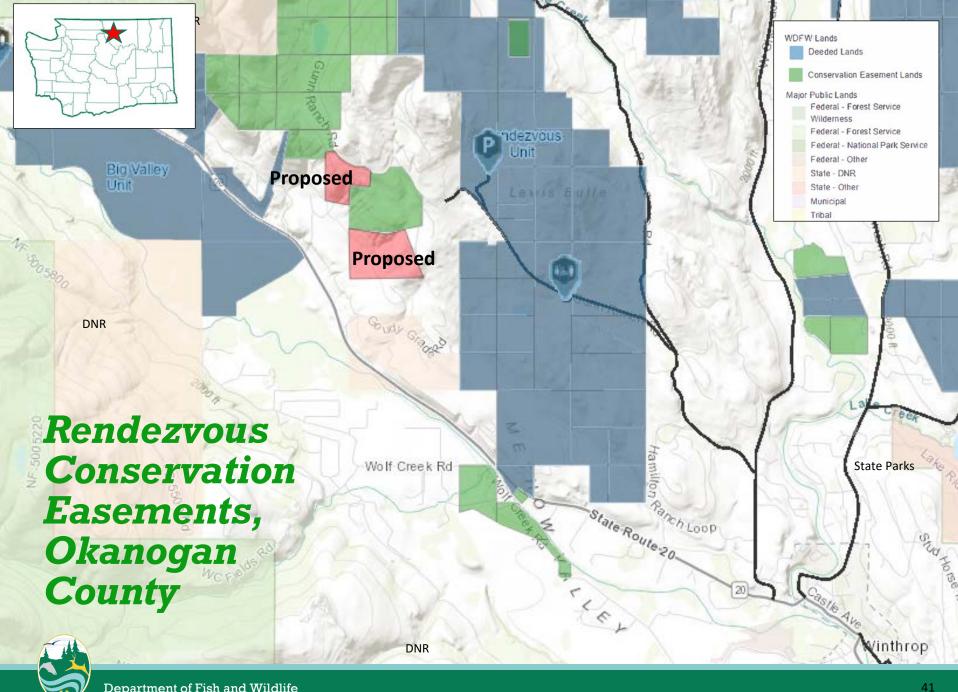
Patterson Lake Easement, Okanogan County

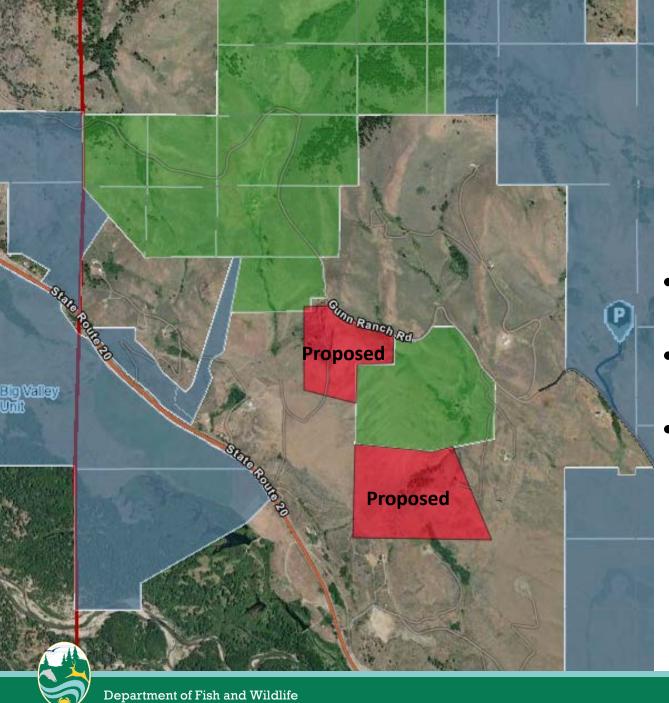
- Less than one acre
- Easement
- Patterson Lake
 Water Access



Patterson Lake Easement, Okanogan County

- Small public easement
- Recreation: fishing, boating, kayaking, swimming, wildlife viewing





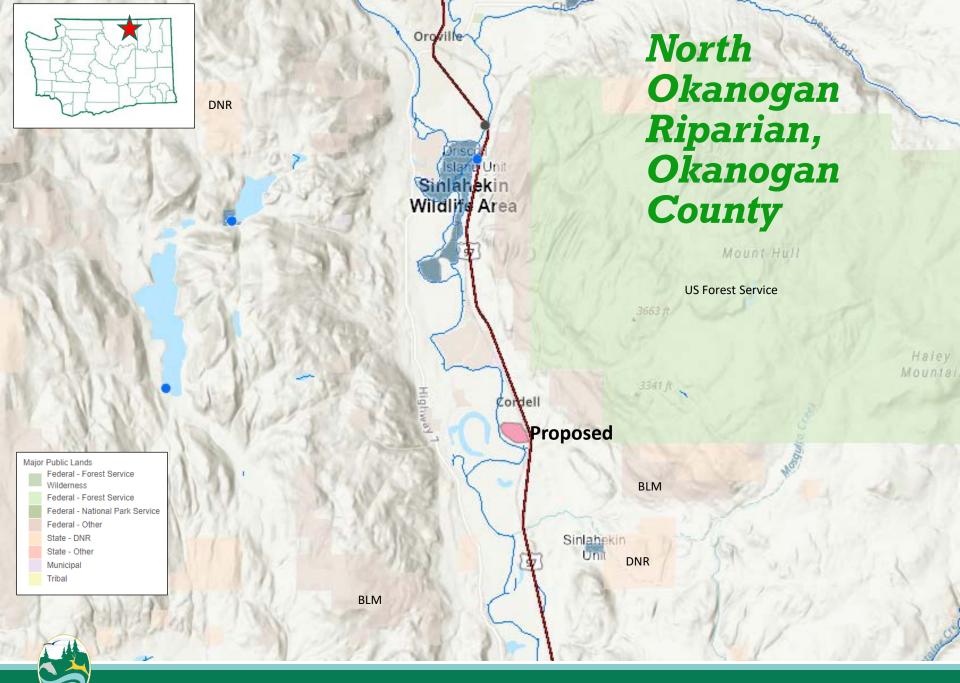
Rendezvous Conservation Easements, Okanogan County

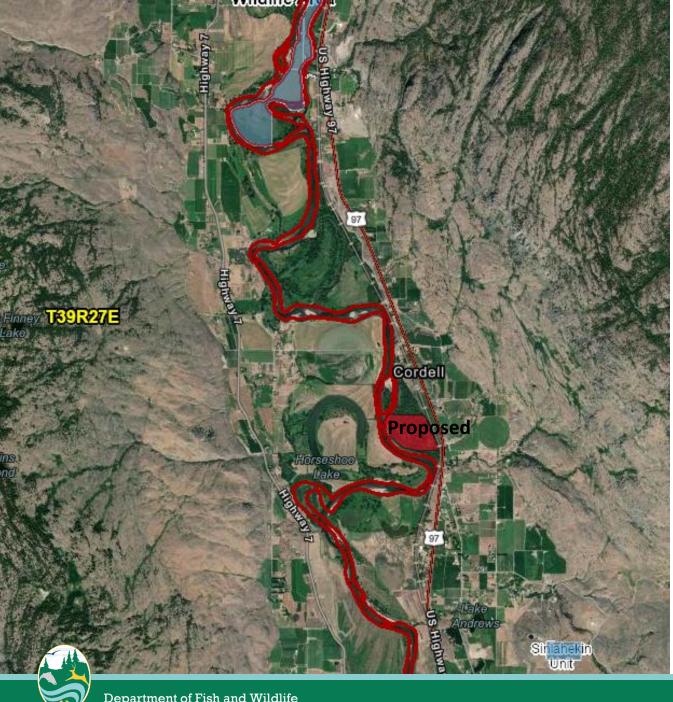
- 148 acres
- Rendezvous Unit
- Methow Wildlife Area



Rendezvous **Conservation** Easements, Okanogan County

- Habitat: Inter- mountain basins big sagebrush steppe, high quality shrubsteppe, meadow
- Species: mule deer, songbirds
- Crucial mule deer migration corridor
- Recreation: hunting, wildlife viewing opportunities





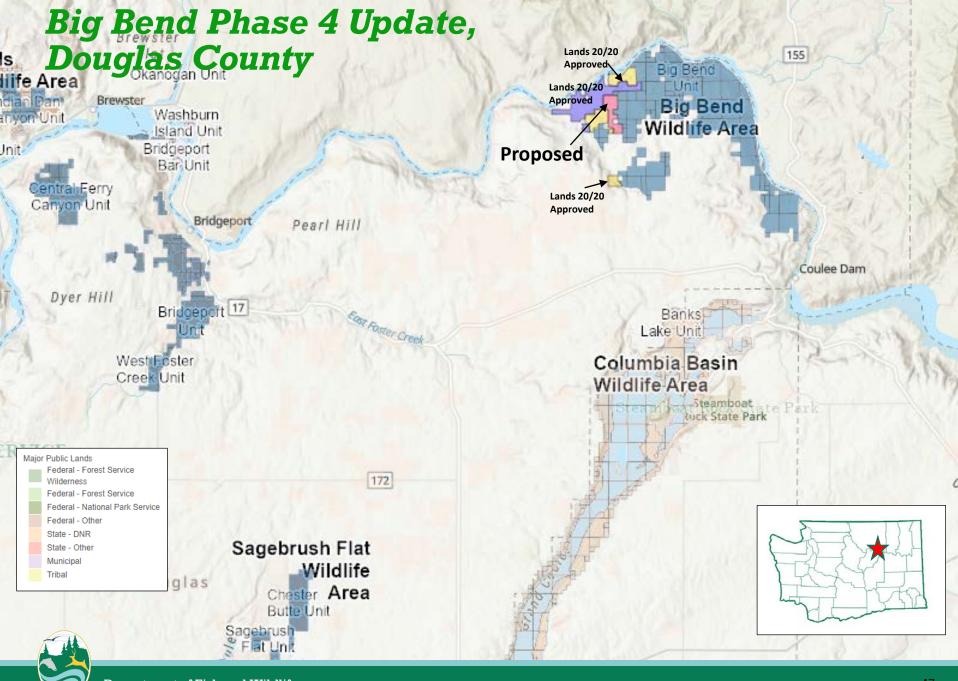
North Okanogan Riparian, **O**kanogan County

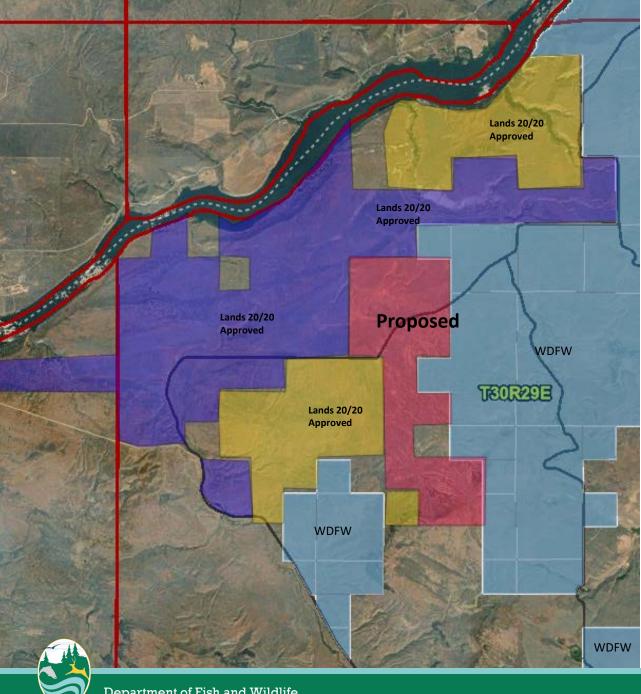
- 37 acres
- **Driscoll Island Unit**
- Sinlahekin Wildlife Area



North Okanogan Riparian, Okanogan County

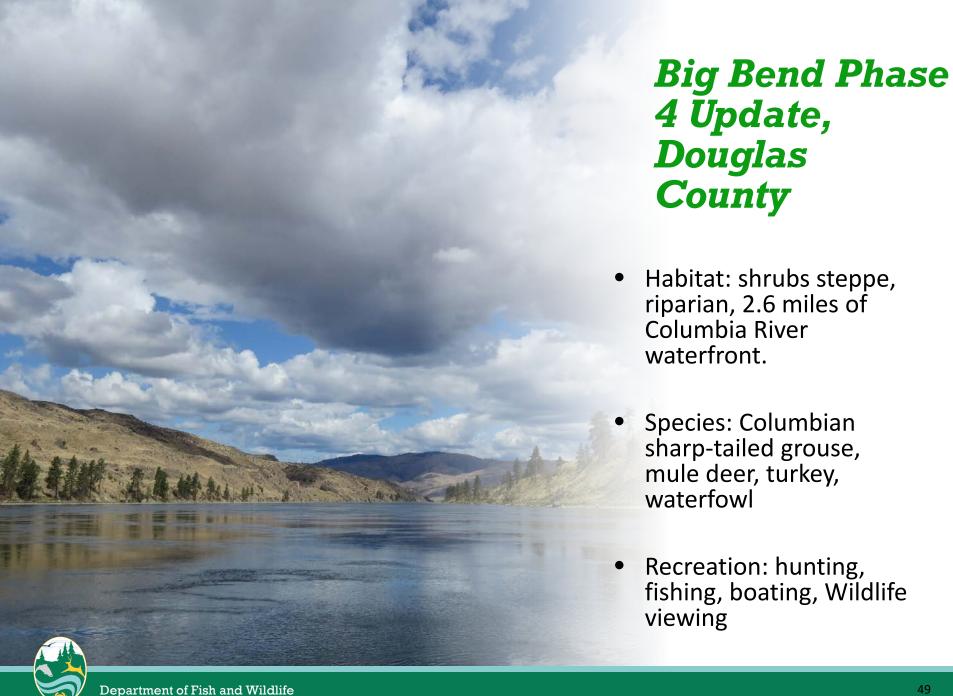
- Habitat: critical riparian
- Species: Upper Columbia steelhead, mule deer
- Recreation: hunting, wildlife viewing

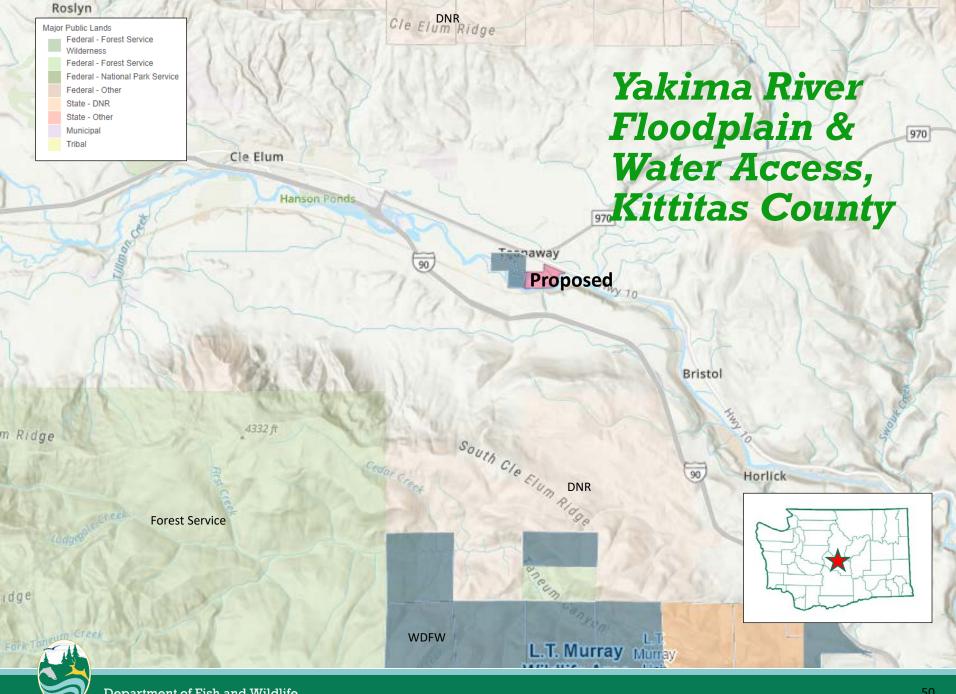




Big Bend Phase 4 Update, **D**ouglas County

- Approved in the 2022 annual Lands 20/20, adds acreage
- Additional 716 acres
- Big Bend Wildlife Area

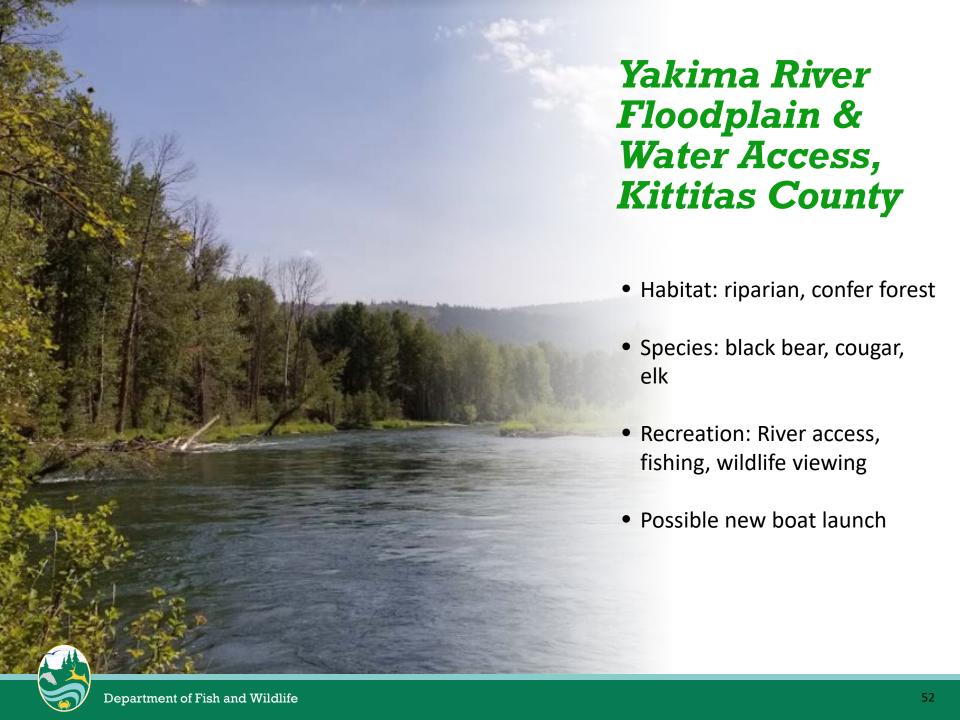


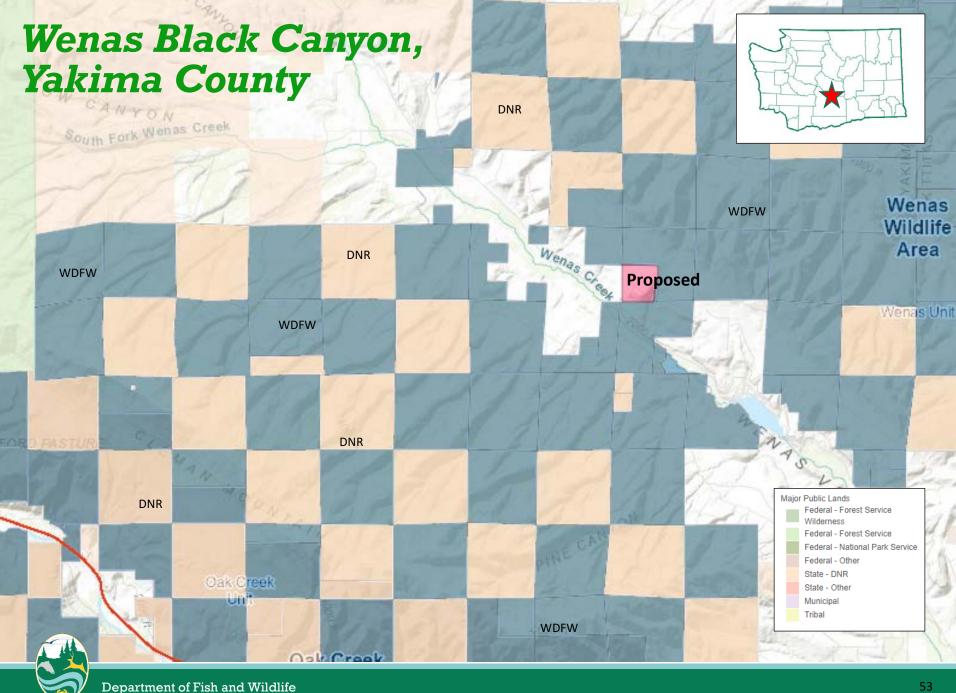




Yakima River Floodplain & Water Access, **Kittitas County**

- 89 Acres
- Yakima River Unit
- LT Murray Wildlife Area
- Two owners
- **Kittitas County** partnership

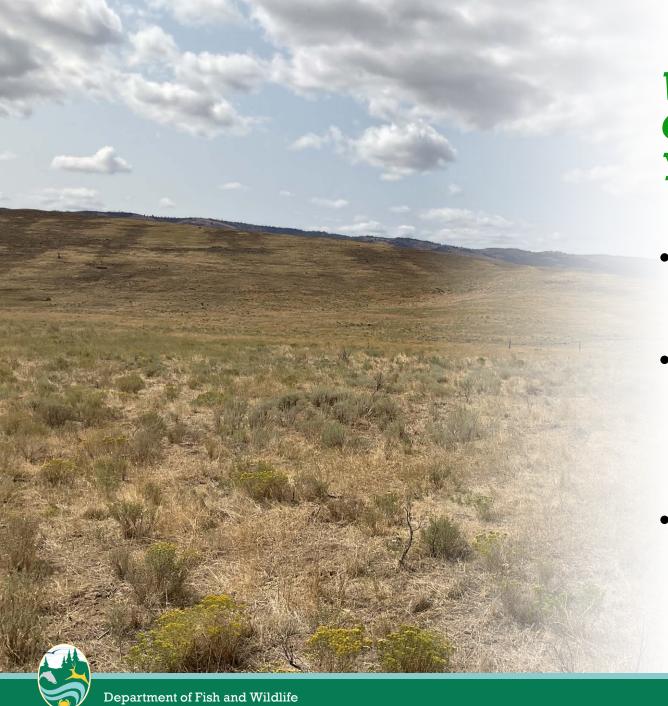






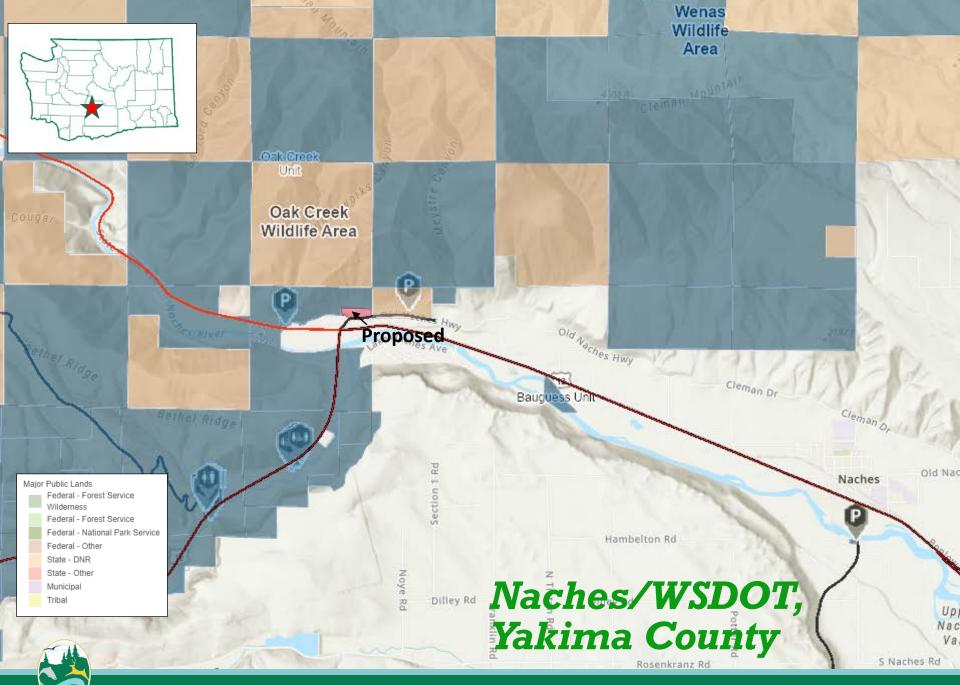
Wenas Black Canyon, Yakima **County**

- 150 acres
- Wenas Unit
- Wenas Wildlife Area



Wenas Black Canyon, Yakima County

- Habitat: intact shrubsteppe
- Species: mule deer, white headed woodpecker, loggerhead shrike
- Recreation: hiking, hunting, bird watching





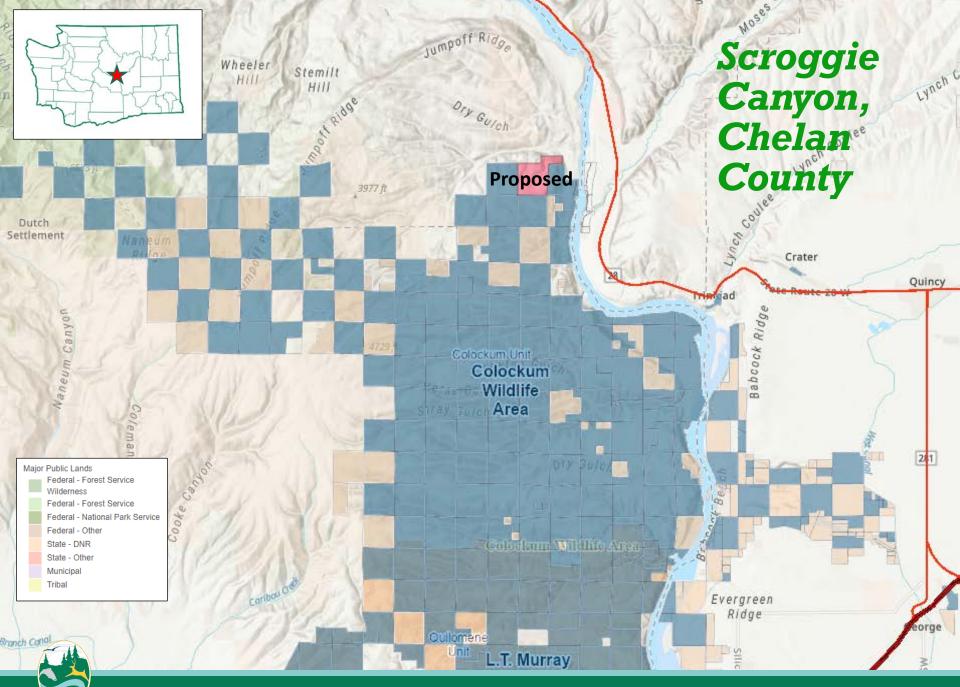
Naches/ WSDOT, Yakima County

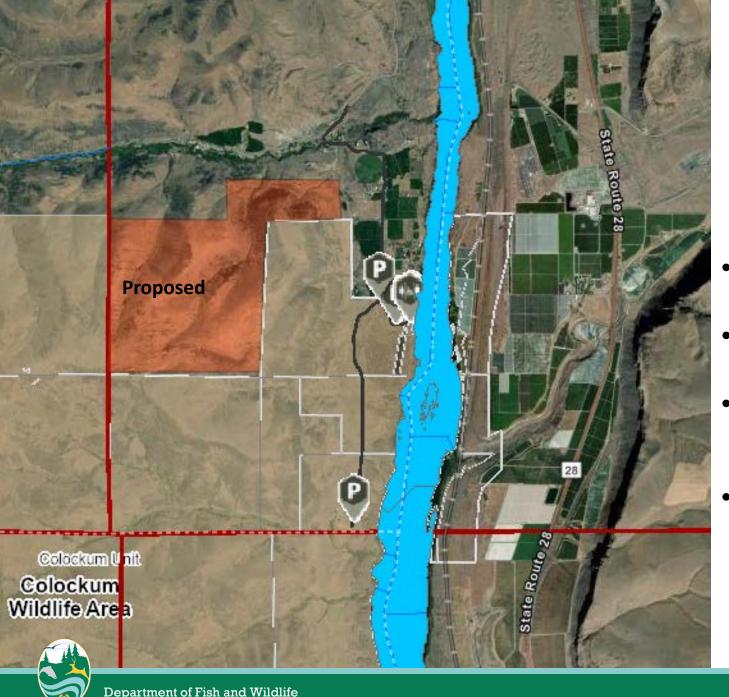
- 11 Acres
- Oak Creek Unit
- Oak Creek Wildlife Area



Naches/ WSDOT, Yakima **County**

- Habitat: Inter-mountain basin big sagebrush steppe
- Species: bighorn sheep, Columbian spotted frog, elk
- Recreation: hunting, wildlife viewing
- Elk fence area





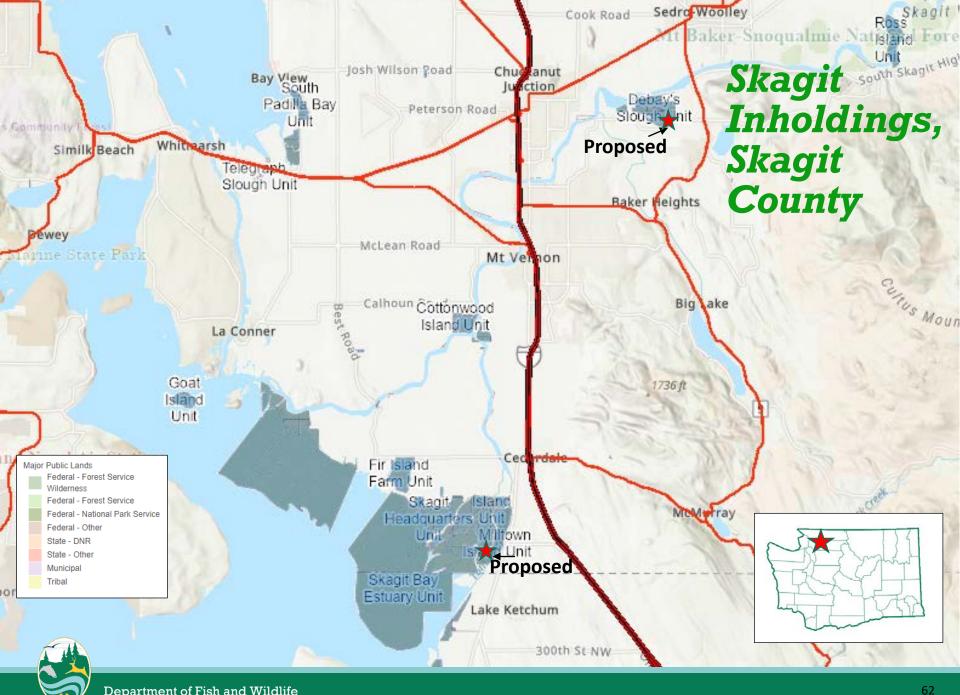
Scroggie Canyon, Chelan County

- 742 acres
- Colockum unit
- Colockum Wildlife Area
- Inholding



Scroggie Canyon, Chelan **County**

- Habitat: shrub steppe, perennial streams
- Species: mule deer, trout
- Recreation: hunting, hiking, wildlife viewing





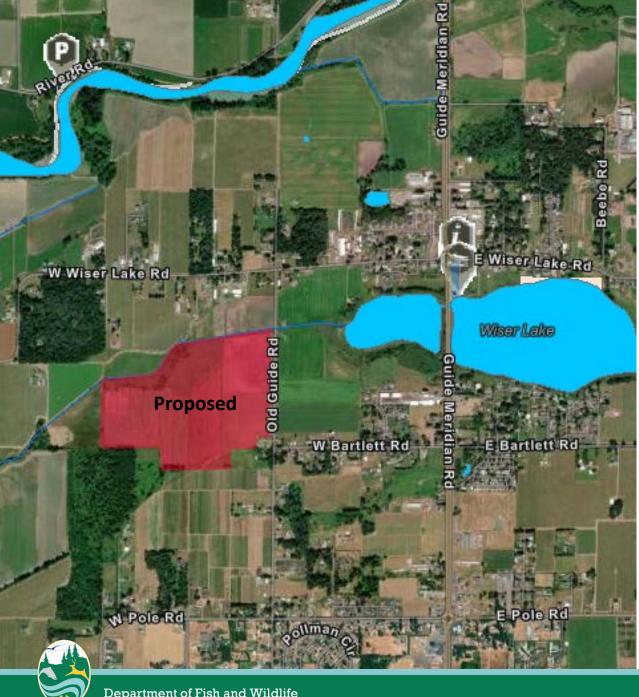
Skagit Inholdings, Skagit County

- Approx. 20 acres two project areas
- Milltown Unit 15 acres
- DeBay Slough Unit five acres
- Skagit Wildlife Area





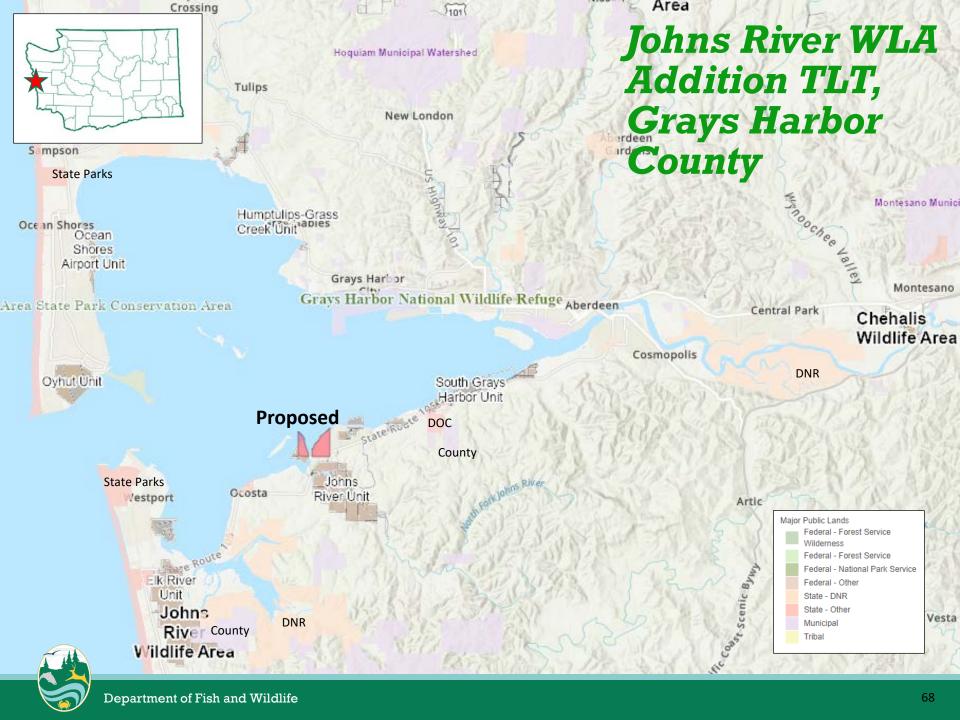


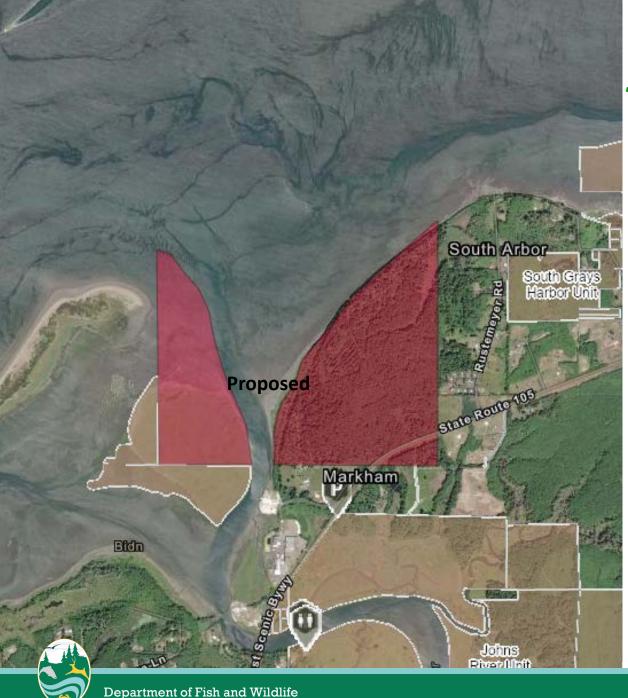


West Wiser Whatcom, **County**

- 117 Acres
- Whatcom Wildlife Area
- Restore previous farmland







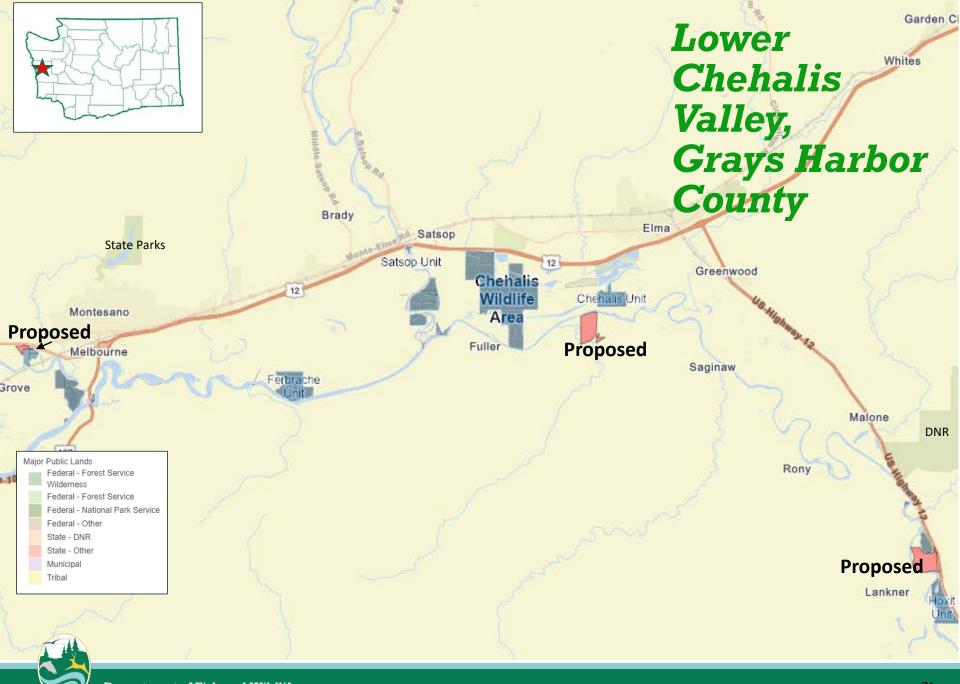
Johns River WLA Addition TLT, **Grays Harbor** County

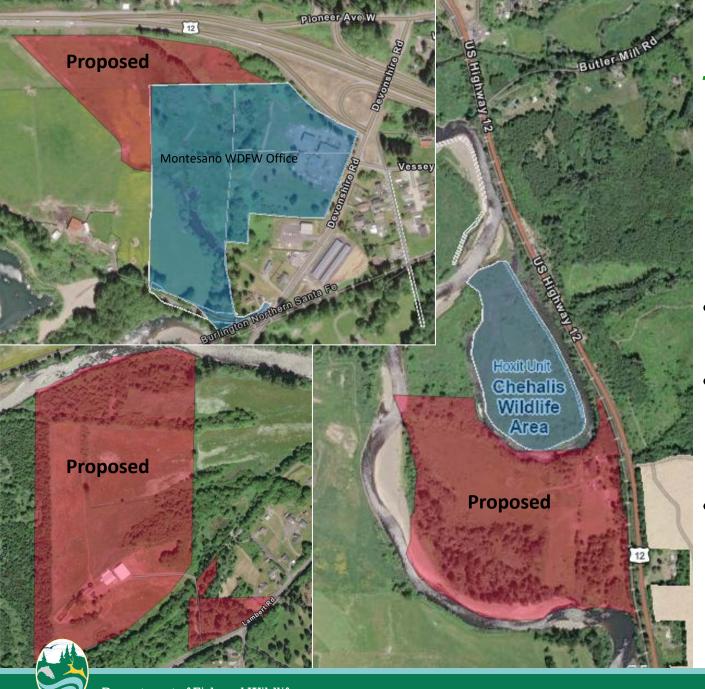
- 235 acres
- **DNR** property
- Johns River Wildlife Area



Johns River WLA Addition TLT, Grays Harbor County

- Habitat: Tideland, riparian,over two miles of GraysHarbor Bay shoreline
- Maintain Grays Harbor water quality & aquaculture
- Species: marbled murrelet waterfowl, bull trout, songbirds and others
- Recreation: tideland access, waterfowl hunting, surf fishing, bird watching





Lower Chehalis Valley, Grays Harbor County

- Approx. 185 acres in three WLA units
- Chehalis unit, Hoxit
 Unit, adjacent to the
 Montesano Regional
 Office
- Chehalis Wildlife Area



Lower Chehalis Valley, Grays Harbor County

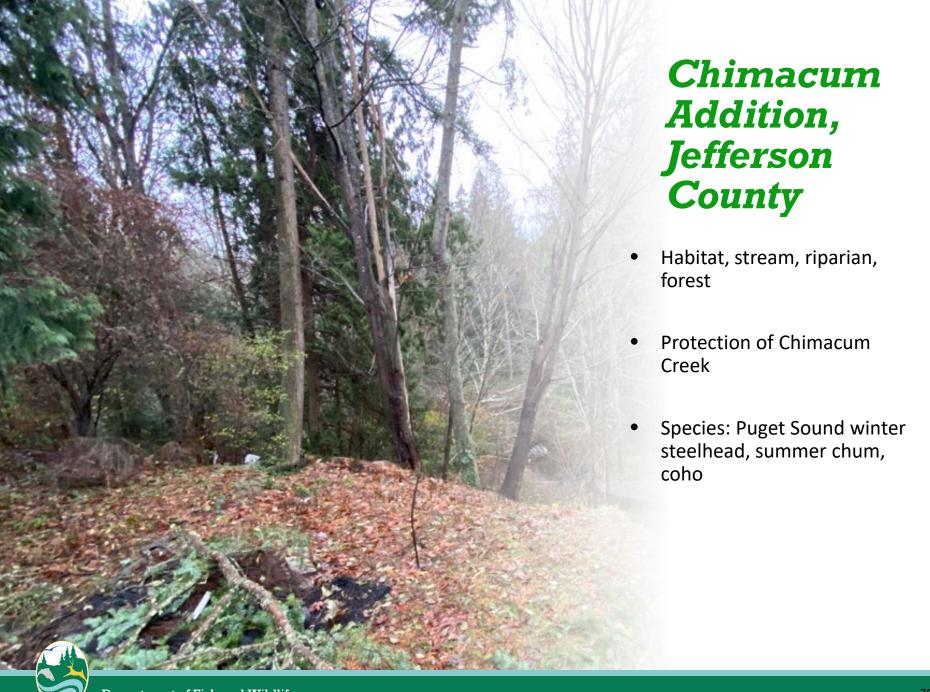
- Habitat: aquatic habitat, floodplains, riparian, wetland
- Adjacent to WDFW ownership
- Species: salmonid, waterfowl
- Recreation: wildlife viewing, hunting, up to two miles of bank fishing





Chimacum Addition, Jefferson County

- .34 acres
- Chimacum Unit
- North Olympic Wildlife Area



PUBLIC REVIEW Comments

11/06/2023 - 12/07/2023

- 28 comments received
- 18 positive, five negative comments
- One with a breakdown of projects (3 strongly support, 8 support, 2 neutral, 7 not support)
- Four with general questions or suggestions of properties to include

Support from organizations:

- Pew Charitable Trust
- Yakama Nation Yakima/Klickitat Fisheries Project
- Jefferson County Commission
- Jamestown S'Klallam Tribe
- Jefferson County Conservation District
- North Olympic Salmon Coalition
- Washington Waterfowl
- Mt. Baker Beekeepers Association
- Wenatchee Outdoors
- Colville Confederate Tribes
- Grays Harbor Audubon Society
- Conservation Northwest
- Wild Fish Conservancy

Opposition from organizations:

Grant County Commissioners

























Keeping the Northwest Wild



