

CDLT Nason Creek UWP Horseshoe Bend Acquisition

Chelan –Douglas Land Trust

14th Round Funding Cycle

May 7, 2013

Anticipated Request from Tributary Committee:	\$ 76,700
Anticipated Request from SRFB:	\$ 303,000
Anticipated Total Request:	\$ 379,700
Anticipated TOTAL Project Budget:	\$ 379,700

Summary of Project Changes (for Final Application only)

SRFB/TRIB Proposal Checklist

Proposal Contents	Page of Application
Title Page	1
Summary of Project Changes (Final Application only)	2
Proposal Checklist	3
Salmon Project Acquisition Proposal	
1. Problem Statement	4
2. Project Purpose	4
3. Project Context	5
4. Project Description	6
Supplemental Questions – Acquisition Projects	8-12
Citations	12
Appendix A - Maps	
Map 1 –Vicinity and Public Ownership	
Map 2 –RM 12-12.6 Spawning/Wetland/Floodplain	
Map 3 –Parcels for Acquisition Map	
Appendix B – Photographs	
Photos 1 Coaker parcel	
Photos 2 Thompson parcel	
Photos 3 Arlberg parcels	
Appendix C – Cost Estimate	
Appendix D - Landowner Acknowledgement Forms	
1. Alberg Form	
2. Coaker Form	
3. Thompson Form	
Appendix E – Letter of Support Chelan County Natural Resources	

1. Problem Statement

The project addresses the need to protect functional habitat and to prevent habitat degradation. Nason Creek is a Category 2 stream, a major spawning area for spring Chinook and steelhead and a core area for bull trout (UC RTT Biological Strategy 2013, Appendix E). It has high Intrinsic Potential for endangered spring Chinook and steelhead and has the highest priority in the Wenatchee Basin for both Protection and Restoration (Id. Tables E3, E4). Reach 3 of Nason Creek, RM 9.4 – 14.3, has a high percentage of the spring Chinook and steelhead spawning in all of Nason Creek, which in turn has a high percentage in the entire Wenatchee basin (Chelan PUD 2011 Annual Report, June 2012). The Bureau of Reclamation's Tributary Assessment states that Reach 3 has the highest potential in the 10 miles studied to build upon existing high quality habitat with restoration actions (USBR 2008, p. 3). Because the area is under pressure for rural and recreational development - as well as the effects of the highway and railroad - it is essential to protect the functional habitat.

The area between RM 12 and 12.8 was platted in the early 1900's as the town of Merritt, lying between the railroad and then-meandering Nason Creek. The railroad had already been constructed south of Merritt; the highway was itself a sinuous ribbon along the hillside above the creek. This changed when Highway 2 was straightened throughout this reach to run some 1000 feet parallel to the railroad between RM 9.5 to 13.2. This cut off numerous meanders and off-stream connections.

Because of the historic subdivision of private properties along Nason Creek, assembling meaningful pieces of habitat protection and accomplishing significant restoration projects is difficult. The "Horseshoe Bend" project is a unique opportunity to put together several adjoining properties for both purposes. Three private property owners (Coaker, Thompson Kisker and Alberg) have expressed willingness to sell a total of 6 small parcels totaling 14.22 acres. Chelan County owns 22.2 acres of contiguous property with 2,500 feet of stream bank. This property was deeded to the County by a local resident over a decade ago. The County's property will not be acquired, but will continue to be held as conservation property. A private parcel 2 acres in size with almost 1,000 feet of stream bank (Coaker) has derelict buildings and dumped vehicles/debris that will be removed as part of this project. The assembled site will provide protected habitat with the Chelan County property including 36.44 acres and 4,450 linear feet of stream bank covering both sides of the Creek. Future opportunities include a public access trail and interpretative signage, as well potential restoration actions recommended in the Bureau of Reclamation's Tributary and Reach Assessments.

2. Project Purpose

A. Project goals.

The goal of this project is to protect and maintain 14.22 acres of largely riparian habitat including 1,950 linear feet of stream bank. Permanent protection will prevent degradation of spring Chinook and steelhead spawning and rearing area by eliminating threats of subdivision development and associated habitat degradation, including erosion and sedimentation from construction, water withdrawal from domestic wells, pollution, bank hardening, removal of LWD, loss of riparian vegetation and pollution from septic systems and household chemicals.

B. Project objectives.

The primary objective of the project is to maintain the property in its natural state to ensure that it remains as unconfined floodplain, and unrestricted channel migration zone with natural stream complexity. Specific objectives are to protect, in perpetuity, .37 miles of riverbank and associated wetlands consistent with maintaining and improving habitat for endangered salmonids. The outcomes from this permanent protection are to permanently prevent degradation of the existing habitat from development, to facilitate restoration activities to enhance the habitat, and to have compatible public access and education activities.

After the properties are acquired, CDLT will look to the Upper White Pine Reach Assessment (Bureau of Reclamation 2009) and the Regional Technical Team for guidance regarding appropriate restoration activities. CDLT is discussing with Chelan County the possibilities for a low impact public access and interpretative signage location on the Coaker parcel after it is acquired and cleaned up.

3. Project Context

A. Describe the location of the project in the watershed.

The Project is located at Nason Creek River Mile 12 - 12.6 of the Upper White Pine Reach 3. Nason Creek flows into the Wenatchee River, a tributary of the Columbia River (Appendix A - Map 1). It is considered a Priority 2 stream with high quality aquatic resources, but in general more fragmented than Priority 1 streams. Despite historic subdivision and constraints between Highway 2 and the Burlington-Northern Santa Fe (BNSF) railroad, the area has high fish use. For example, the 2011 spawning surveys for the Chelan County PUD reported that Nason Creek had 19.5% of the spring Chinook redds counted in the entire Wenatchee River Basin, and 43% of the spawning in Nason Creek was in Reach 3 (2011 Annual Report p. 113-114).

B. List the fish resources present at the site and targeted by this project.

Species	Life History Present (egg, juvenile, adult)	Current Population Trend (decline, stable, increase)	ESA Coverage	Life History Target (egg, juvenile, adult)
Spring Chinook	MaSA, Egg, juvenile, adult	Stable	Y	Egg, juvenile, adult
Steelhead	MaSA, Egg, juvenile, adult	Stable	Y	Egg, juvenile, adult
Bull Trout	Core Area, Egg, juvenile, adult	Stable	Y	Egg, juvenile, adult
Coho Salmon	Egg, juvenile, adult	Stable	N	Egg, juvenile, adult

Spring Chinook and steelhead redds are well represented in this properties (Appendix A – Map 2). The survey data was provided by the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board as GIS shapefiles.

C. Discuss how this project fits within your regional recovery plan and local lead entity's strategy to restore or protect salmonid habitat in the watershed

This is a Category 2 watershed and Tier 1 priority habitat action under Biological Strategy of the Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Plan. The Biological Strategy states "The highest priority for protecting biological productivity should be to allow natural geo-fluvial processes, such as unrestricted stream channel migration and sediment transport, instream complexity, and flood plain function. The principal means to meet this objective is to protect the channel-migration zone and the riparian zone beyond the channel-migration zone, when these features are functioning at a high level ." This area has been impacted by development (housing, railroad, and power lines); however, there is significant off-channel and wetland habitat, as well as good riparian vegetation. Uniting the subject properties under protection allow the greatest natural function possible between Hwy. 2 and the BNSF Railroad, and permanently secure scarce off-channel habitat in this area of Nason Creek (Appendix A – Maps 2, 3).

D. Explain why it is important to do this project now instead of at a later date.

Habitat protection in this reach of Nason Creek requires re-assembling subdivided private parcels, and having 3 private owners willing to sell at the same time is a rare opportunity. CDLT has been in contact with these owners since 2009, and this is the first time all have agreed. The willingness of Chelan County to cooperate with protection and future public access and/or restoration projects makes this even more attractive.

E. If any part or phase of this project previously has been reviewed or funded by the SRFB, please fill in the table below.

N/A.

4. Project Description

A. Provide a detailed description of the proposed project, including project size, scope, design, and how it will address the problem(s) described above.

*Describe specific restoration methods and design elements you plan to employ.
(Acquisition-only projects need not respond to this question.)*

See Supplemental Question A for Acquisition-only projects.

B. If this project includes measures to stabilize an eroding stream bank, explain why bank stabilization at this location is necessary to accomplish habitat recovery.

N/A.

C. If restoration or acquisition will occur in phases or is part of a recovery strategy, describe the goal of the overall strategy, explain individual sequencing steps, and which of these steps is included in this application.

The first phase of this project is the property acquisition to be accomplished under this grant.

CDLT will work with potential sponsors for future work on its properties, and engage with the Regional Technical Team and the Review Panel as appropriate.

D. Describe the long-term stewardship and maintenance obligations for the project or acquired land.

CDLT will prepare a Stewardship Plan to guide the permanent stewardship for habitat protection, appropriate restoration, and compatible public access. In order to acquire the properties, CDLT Board policy requires that it obtain adequate stewardship funding, generally obtained as donations from the selling landowners.

E. Describe other approaches and design alternatives that were considered to achieve the project's objectives and why the preferred alternative was selected.

None of these owners is interested in a conservation easement, and fee acquisition provides better flexibility for future restoration if appropriate.

F. List all landowner names.

Edward Coaker, Michael Alberg, Douglas Thompson Kisker. (Landowner Acknowledgments Appendix D-1,2,3).

G. Has the Washington Department of Natural Resources confirmed that your project is or is not on state-owned aquatic lands?

N/A

H. List project partners and their role and contribution to the project.

Chelan County owns approximately 22 undeveloped acres in the middle of Horseshoe Bend. These County owned parcels are adjacent to the 14.22 acres of private parcels CDLT will acquire to protect a significant habitat area (Appendix A – Maps 1-3). CDLT and the County are cooperating on this project to develop a plan for future protection, public access, and restoration for the entire area. If project funds are secured, CCNRD staff will manage the debris removal from the Coaker parcel.

I. Stakeholder Outreach:

CDLT regularly communicates with its 1,000 members about its salmon habitat protection work in the Entiat and Wenatchee watersheds. CDLT members highly value these efforts. CDLT leads public outings on its properties to educate about salmon and their habitat. Volunteer groups including individuals, businesses and students participate in volunteer projects including

riparian planting and weed control. CDLT regularly does outreach with service clubs and other groups to highlight its activities. CDLT staff regularly attends meetings of the Implementation Team, Wenatchee Watershed Planning Unit, and Wenatchee Habitat Subcommittee, coordinating with partner organizations. Because of landowner confidentiality issues, CDLT is not able to do outreach about specific acquisitions in advance of project initiation.

J. Contingency Planning:

There are no constraints or uncertainties expected at this time.

K. List and describe the major tasks and time schedule you will use to complete the project.

TASK	TIMELINE
Complete Appraisals	August 2014
Environmental Assessments and other due diligence	December 2014
Negotiate Purchase and Sale Agreements	March 2015
Title, Closing, Stewardship Plan	June 2015
Complete clean-up	October 2015

Acquisition Project Supplemental Questions

A. Provide a detailed description of the property.

Reach 3 of Nason Creek, RM 9.4 – 14.3, has a high percentage of the spring Chinook and steelhead spawning in all of Nason Creek, which in turn has a high percentage in the entire Wenatchee basin (Chelan PUD 2011 Annual Report, June 2012). Because the area is under pressure for rural and recreational development - as well as the effects of the highway and railroad - it is essential to protect the functional habitat. The spawning surveys show high fish use in the creek within Horseshoe Bend. These parcels are already subdivided into small lots that can be separately developed for recreational cabins on lots as small as .82 acres. The UBBR Tributary Assessment described subreach OZ-3 as "functioning at greater than 80% percent efficiency which makes the subreach protection-oriented. Riparian rehabilitation actions can be implemented in tandem with protection strategies to address the small amount of disturbed vegetation." (USBR 2009, p. 31).

The following chart provides the basic statistics regarding the property permanently protected under this grant. Appendix A – Maps 1-3 give a good understanding of the habitat and the way these properties link together.

Parcel No.	Owner	Acres per Assessor*	Stream bank Feet	# Lots	% Floodplain	Zoning*
261603695020	Thompson		Connected by		100%	RR5
	Kisker	1.93	culvert	1	Wetland	
261603695025	Coaker	2.00	1,000	1	100%	RR5
261604140100	Alberg	10.29	950	5	90%	RR5
261604140200	Alberg					RR5
261604140050	Alberg					RR5
261603695175	Alberg					RR5/RR2.5
Project Total		14.22	1,950	7	94%	

*Assessor's acreages may not equal GIS acres. Parcels less than the current zoning classification minimum lot size were subdivided previously and are grandfathered.

B. State what type of acquisition is proposed (e.g., fee title, conservation easement).

Fee title.

C. State the size of the property to be acquired.

14.22 acres. See Question A above .

D. Describe the property's proximity to publically owned or protected properties in the vicinity.

The subject property lies in an area of significant connected protection. The Forest Service owns the property to the west abutting the Alberg property. The unnamed stream from the north flows through Forest Service property, feeding the Thompson-Kisker pond/wetland that is connected by a culvert to off-channel habitat south of Hwy. 2. The BNSF Railroad borders on the south, with a few private parcels and large amounts of Forest Service property beyond (Appendix A – Map 1).

E. If uplands are included on the property to be acquired, state their size and explain why they are essential for protecting salmonid habitat.

N/A.

F. State the percentage of the total project area that is intact and fully functioning habitat.

After clean up of Coaker and Alberg parcels and clean out of Thompson Kisker culvert, 100% of the project area should be intact and fully functioning.

G. Explain property restoration needs.

The acquisition proposal includes removal of all debris on the Coaker and Alberg parcels. The Bureau of Reclamation's 2009 Upper White Pine Reach Assessment identifies this area (UWP OZ-1 and UWP OZ-3) as having high geomorphic potential and recommends protection of current levels of geomorphic, hydrological and riparian function (USBR 2009, pp. 29-31). For the Thompson Kisker pond/wetland north of Hwy 2 (UWP OZ-4), the assessment recommends modifying the culverts to reconnect to the riverine system (USBR 2009, p. 47). The UC RTT Biological Strategy recommends consideration for Nason Creek side channel and wetland connections, channel form, riparian condition and instream structural complexity as rehabilitation. The Yakama Nation did a potential restoration project study of the corridor, and highlighted off-channel creation and enhancement, bar-apex logjams and meander bend log jams as potential for these properties. CDLT will work with potential sponsors on appropriate restoration proposals.

H. List structures (home, barn, outbuildings, fence) on the property and any proposed modifications.

The Coaker and Alberg properties have derelict structures from decades ago when small vacation cabins were rented along Nason Creek. The Coaker site also has car bodies to be removed from the site (Appendix B – Photos). An estimate by Chelan County Natural Resources to remove these materials is included in the cost estimate (Appendix C – Cost Estimate). There are no occupied structures.

I. Describe adjacent land uses (upstream, downstream, across stream, upland).

Forest Service property abuts the western border, and catty-corner to the north and south. (Appendix A – Map 1). Chelan County property is in the middle of the horseshoe on both sides of the river. There is private property, some developed for residential/recreational use, to the east, west and north (Appendix A – Map 3).

J. Describe the:

- i. **Zoning/land use** Approx. 13 acres RR5 (minimum 10 acres) and 1.25 acres RR2.5 (minimum 5 acres). However, the lots are already subdivided at lot sizes significantly less than the current minimum (as little as .82 acres), and are grandfathered under the Chelan County Code.
- ii. **Shoreline Master Plan designation** Conservancy
- iii. **Portion of site within 100-year floodplain** 47%
- iv. **Portion of site within designated floodway** 0%

K. Explain why federal, state, and local regulations are insufficient to protect the property from degradation.

Federal, state and local regulations do not prevent development within the legally-identified floodplain. Chelan County allows construction in the floodplain by placing fill to raise the structure. Moreover, the Development Department's enforcement is only complaint-driven and is a low priority in budget-challenged times.

The subject parcels are already subdivided at much smaller sizes than allowed under the current zoning, and are developable as platted. Under the Chelan County Code Section 12.32.050, all lots recorded prior to October 17, 2000 are legal lots of record, as are lots in a short plat, in a major subdivision, greater than 20 acres, or with an approved certificate of exemption, building permit or land use permit. The County's "Reasonable use" regulation (Fish and Wildlife Habitat Conservation Overlay District Section 11.78.220) states that the habitat regulations are not to be applied to prohibit reasonable use or to constitute a taking of property rights. For example, in 2011 the County settled a lawsuit with an Entiat River property owner by issuing a building permit for a residence in violation of the required setback and within the channel migration zone of the river.

While local regulations in Washington State protect riparian areas through the Growth Management Act, there is no prohibition against full enjoyment of property that can include frequent disturbance in riparian areas. Additionally, there are no requirements for landowner participation or permission for restoration projects such as the ones potentially occurring on Nason Creek.

L. For projects that have a goal of saving water:

N/A. Protection will prevent development of domestic wells.

M. If buying the land, explain why acquiring a conservation easement to extinguish certain development, timber, agricultural, mineral, or water rights will not achieve the goals and objectives of the project.

The landowners do not wish to continue to own the properties under a conservation easement. The subdivided parcels are too small to have any significant private use and put the balance of the property under an easement. Since the project has potential for both public access and restoration as well as habitat protection, fee acquisition is the best option.

N. For acquisition projects intending to purchase multiple properties within an area, identify all the possible parcels that will provide similar benefits and certainty of success and provide a clear description of how parcels will be prioritized and how priority parcels will be pursued for acquisition.

With the benefit of Bureau of Reclamation's Tributary and Reach Assessments, CDLT has identified the highest priority contiguous parcels with intact habitat and connections to other protected property. Due to their size of these parcels, CDLT will seek to acquire all of the parcels together in order to constitute a meaningful and manageable unit. T

Order of priority: Coaker, Alberg, Thompson

CITATIONS.

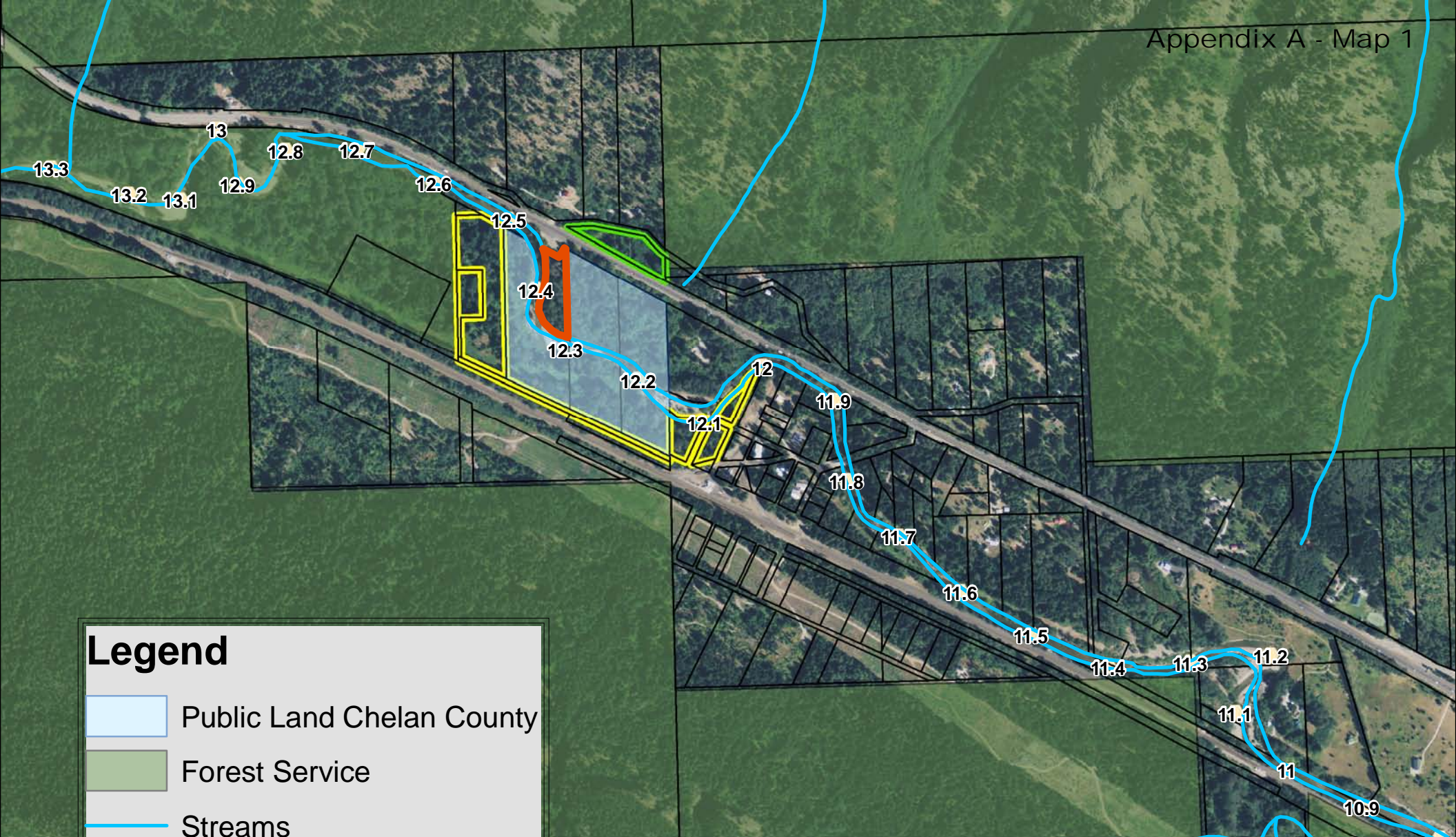
(Chelan PUD, 2012) Monitoring and Evaluation of the Chelan County PUD Hatchery Programs. 2011 Annual Report.

(UCRTT) Upper Columbia Regional Technical Team. 2013. A Biological Strategy to Protect and Restore Salmonid Habitat in the Upper Columbia Region. Available online at <http://www.ucsrb.com/resources.asp>.

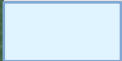






(UCSRB) Upper Columbia Salmon Recovery Board. 2007. Upper Columbia Spring Chinook Salmon and Steelhead Recovery Plan. August 2007. Available online at <http://www.ucsrb.com/resources.asp>.

(USBR, 2008) U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. 2008. Nason Creek Tributary Assessment. July 2008. Available online at <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/fcrps/thp/ucao/wenatchee/nasoncreek/tributary-assmt.pdf>.

(USBR, 2009) U.S. Bureau of Reclamation. 2009. Upper White Pine Reach Assessment: Nason Creek. March 2009. Available online at <http://www.usbr.gov/pn/programs/fcrps/thp/ucao/wenatchee/upperwhitepine/upperwhitepine-reachassmt.pdf>.

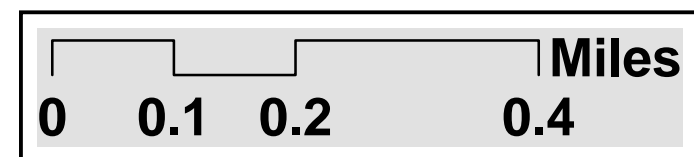


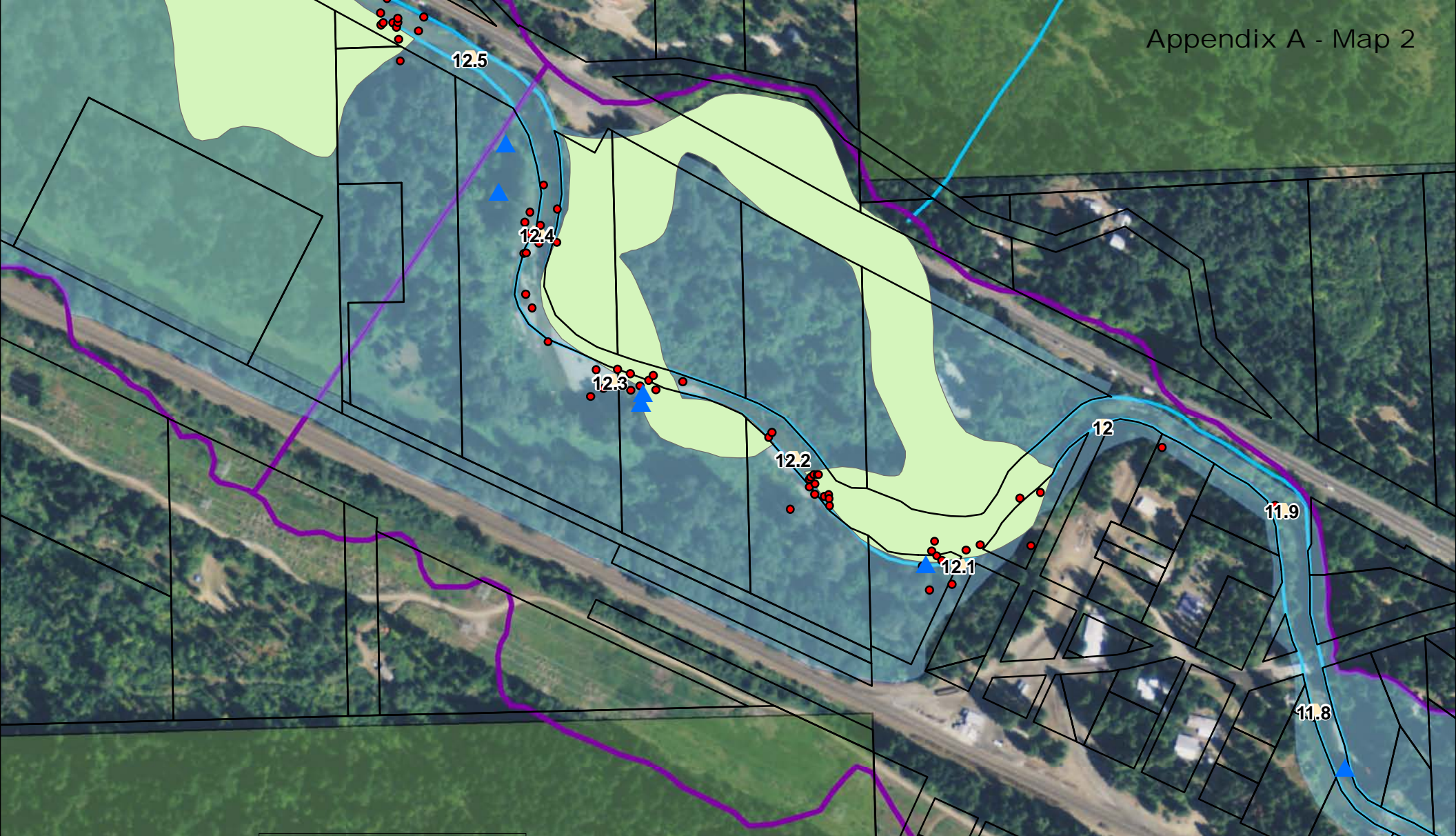
Legend

-  Public Land Chelan County
-  Forest Service
-  Streams
-  Coaker
-  Alberg
-  Thompson
-  River Miles











1:10,000





Legend

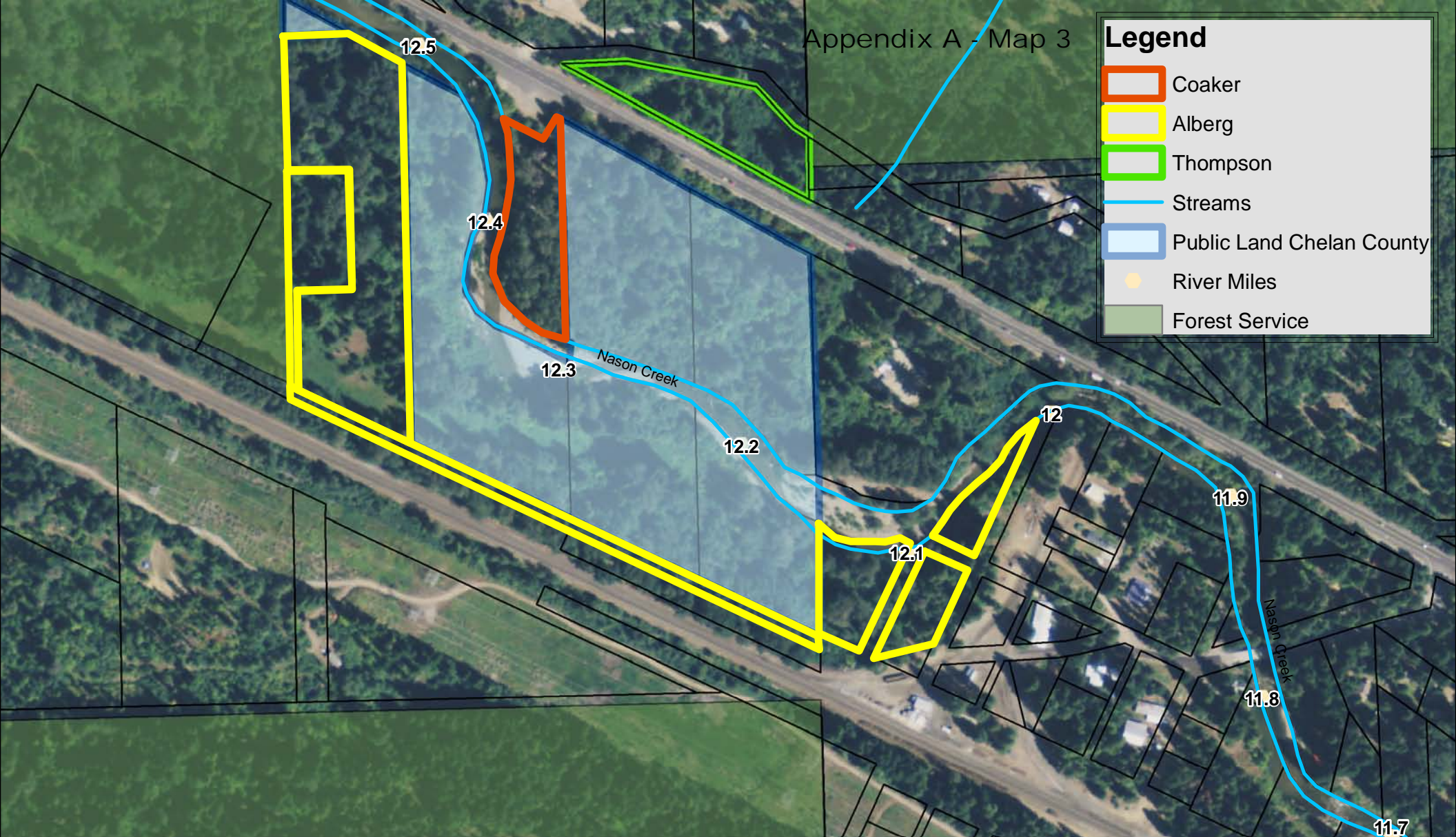
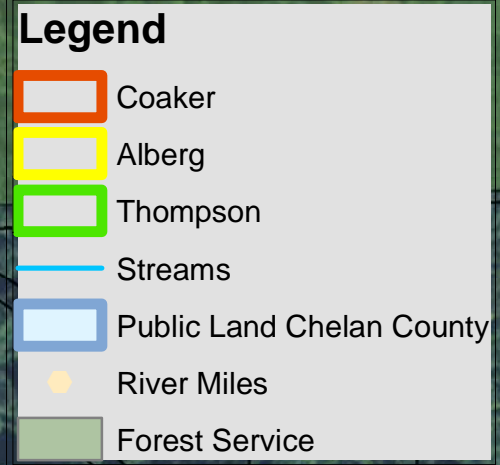
-  Steelhead Redds
-  Spring Chinook Redds
-  CONUS_wet_poly
-  River Miles
-  Impacted Floodplain Boundary
-  Geologic Floodplain Boundary
-  Streams
-  Forest Service



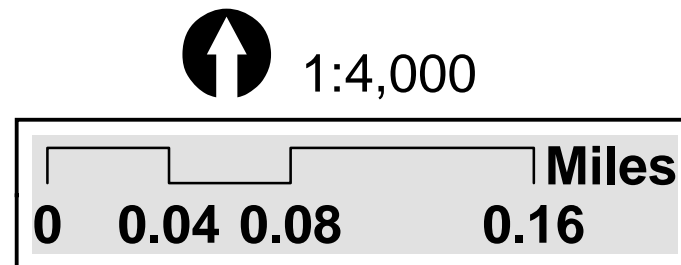
1:4,000



NAID 2011



Upper White Pine Parcels for Acquisition



Appendix B - Photos 1 Coaker

Coaker Parcel

Nason Creek



Derelict buildings and cars for removal under contract with Chelan County.



Appendix B - Photos 1 Coaker



Coaker gravel bar on left bank looking upriver towards Chelan County and Alberg parcels

Coaker gravel bar looking downriver toward Chelan County parcel; LWM falling into Nason Creek in background.



Looking upriver at falling tree from further east (Chelan County parcel)

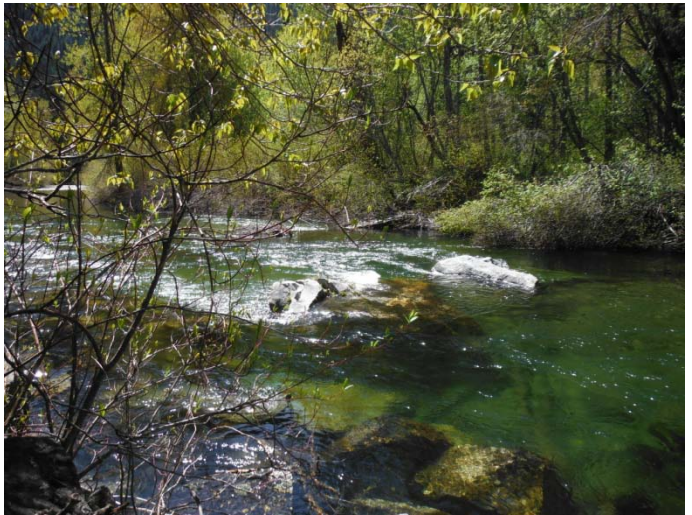
Thompson Kisker Parcel



Culvert location marked on Hwy 2 connecting Thompson Kisker pond/wetland (former main channel) on north side to channel on south side.



Alberg Parcel at RM 12.5 adjacent to Hwy. 2



Large boulders and deep pool

Looking downriver – Alberg on right bank

Looking upriver – high spawning area



Alberg Parcel on Merritt side



Former cabin complex
structures



Nason Creek at RM 12.1, numerous
spring Chinook and steelhead Redds
mapped

COST ESTIMATE NASON CREEK UPPER WHITE PINE HORSESHOE BEND ACQUISITION #13-1287

	Coaker	Thompson	Alberg	TOTAL
Land Costs	90,000	30,000	180,000	300,000
Site Clean up	19,150	-	22,650	41,800
Incidentals				
Appraisal	2,000	2,000	2,000	6,000
Review	500	500	500	1,500
Environmental Assessment	1,500	500	1,000	3,000
Title	500	500	500	1,500
Closing & Recording	500	500	500	1,500
Survey	500	500	500	1,500
Fencing	1,000		500	1,500
Noxious Weed Control	500	500	500	1,500
Stewardship Plan	1,000	500	500	2,000
Incidentals subtotal	8,000	5,500	6,500	20,000
Administration (≤5%)	5,800	1,700	10,400	17,900
Project Total				379,700
Anticipated Request from SRFB				303,000
Anticipated Request from Tributary Committees				76,700

Appendix K: Landowner Acknowledgement Form

Landowner Information

Name of Landowner: Michael Alberg

Landowner Contact Information:

☒ Mr. ☐ Ms. Title:

First Name: Michael

Last Name: Alberg

Contact Mailing Address: 800 Shale Pit. Road, Ellensburg, WA 98926

Contact E-Mail Address: agspecialist@gmail.com

Property Address or Location: Hwy 2, APN 261604140100, 261604140200, 261604140050, 261612515040

1. I am the legal owner of property described in this grant application.
2. I am aware that the project is being proposed on my property.
3. If the grant is successfully awarded, I will be contacted and asked to engage in negotiations.
4. My signature does not represent authorization of project implementation.

Landowner Signature

Date

Project Sponsor Information

Project Name: CDLT Upper White Pine Habitat Acquisition

Project Applicant Contact Information:

☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. Title Lands Project Manager

First Name: Mickey

Last Name: Fleming

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4461, Wenatchee, WA 98807

E-Mail Address: mickey@cdlandtrust.org

Appendix K: Landowner Acknowledgement Form

Landowner Information

Name of Landowner: Edward W. Coaker

Landowner Contact Information:

☒ Mr. ☐ Ms. Title:

First Name: Edward

Last Name: Coaker

Contact Mailing Address: 23024 32nd Avenue W, Brier, WA 98036

Contact E-Mail Address:

Property Address or Location: Hwy 2, APN 261603695025

1. I am the legal owner of property described in this grant application.
2. I am aware that the project is being proposed on my property.
3. If the grant is successfully awarded, I will be contacted and asked to engage in negotiations.
4. My signature does not represent authorization of project implementation.

Ed Coaker

Landowner Signature

5/4/12

Date

Project Sponsor Information

Project Name: CDLT Upper White Pine Habitat Acquisition

Project Applicant Contact Information:

☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. Title Lands Project Manager

First Name: Mickey

Last Name: Fleming

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4461, Wenatchee, WA 98807

E-Mail Address: mickey@cdlandtrust.org

Appendix K: Landowner Acknowledgement Form

Landowner Information

Name of Landowner: Douglas Thompson Kisker

Landowner Contact Information:

☒ Mr. ☐ Ms. Title:

First Name: Douglas

Last Name: Thompson Kisker

Contact Mailing Address: 5630 6th Avenue NE Seattle, WA 98107

Contact E-Mail Address: Doug Kisker [dtkisker@gmail.com]

Property Address or Location: Hwy 2, APN 261603695020

1. I am the legal owner of property described in this grant application.
2. I am aware that the project is being proposed on my property.
3. If the grant is successfully awarded, I will be contacted and asked to engage in negotiations.
4. My signature does not represent authorization of project implementation.


Landowner Signature

March 25, 2013
Date

Project Sponsor Information

Project Name: CDLT Upper White Pine Habitat Acquisition

Project Applicant Contact Information:

☐ Mr. ☐ Ms. Title Lands Project Manager

First Name: Mickey

Last Name: Fleming

Mailing Address: P.O. Box 4461, Wenatchee, WA 98807

E-Mail Address: mickey@cdlandtrust.org



Chelan County Natural Resource Department

316 Washington Street, Suite 401

Wenatchee, Washington 98801

P 509.667.6533

F 509.667.6527

Chelan Douglas Land Trust
Attn: Mickey Fleming
18 North Wenatchee Ave
Wenatchee, WA 98801

Re: Horseshoe Bend Protection Project

Dear Mickey:

Chelan County Natural Resources Department (CCNRD) is writing in support of the Chelan Douglas Land Trust (CDLT) application for the Horseshoe Bend protection project in Nason Creek. Chelan County owns approximately 22 undeveloped acres near RM 12.4 in Nason Creek which is just upstream from the town of Merritt. The County owned parcels are adjacent to the 14 acres of private parcels that CDLT proposes to acquire in order to protect riparian and floodplain habitat in Nason Creek.

CDLT and the County are cooperating on this project to develop a plan for future protection, public access, and restoration for the entire area. If project funds are secured, CCNRD staff will manage the debris removal from the Coaker and Alberg parcels.

The County is working collaboratively with CDLT, Yakama Nation, US Forest Service, US Bureau of Reclamation and other partners to develop restoration actions in the Upper White Pine reach of Nason Creek (RM 12-14). Thus, we would encourage support for this protection project which may facilitate future restoration actions.

Please contact me if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Mike Kaputa", is written over a horizontal line.

Mike Kaputa
Director, Chelan County Natural Resources Department