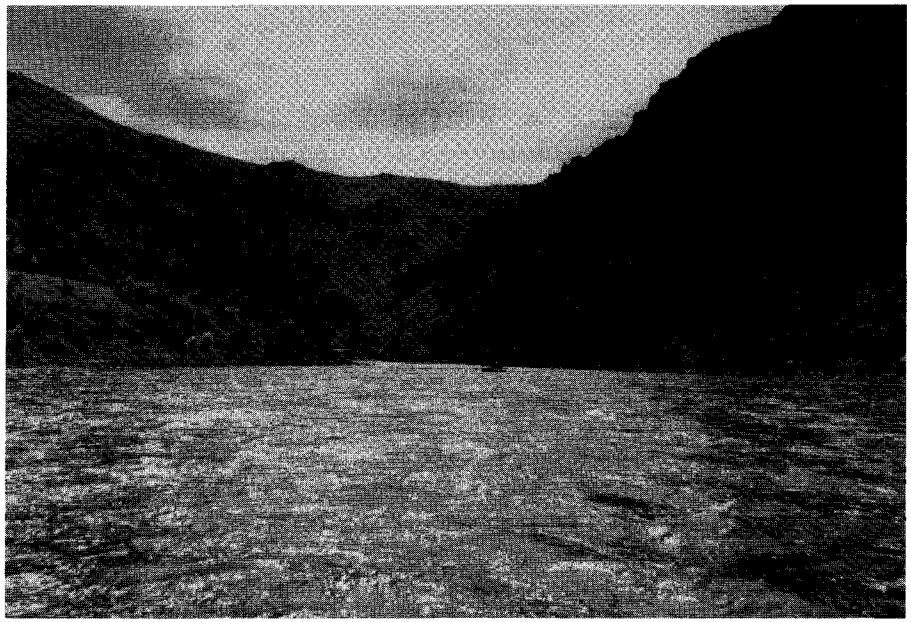

Washington State Scenic River Assessment

September 1988

SCENIC RIVERS

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS

WASHINGTON STATE PARKS AND RECREATION COMMISSION

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Washington State Scenic River Assessment

September 1988

Prepared by the Washington State Scenic Rivers Program
Committee of Participating Agencies
with the
National Park Service, Pacific Northwest Region
for the
Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

September 1988

Dear Citizen,

The rivers of Washington are among the state's outstanding resources. We enjoy them in many ways, from the pleasures of their scenic beauty, natural quality, and evidence of history and prehistory to the more pragmatic benefits of their fisheries, power supply capabilities, and potential to supply water for irrigation, consumption, and recreation. As the population of our state grows, all of the emotional and physical demands we place on rivers will increase.

While there are many state programs which allow or encourage the development of rivers to meet the pragmatic goals of power supply and irrigation, there were, until 1977, none that focussed solely on maintaining some of our rivers in their natural condition. In that year, the Washington Legislature created the Washington State Scenic River Program to protect natural, free-flowing rivers.

At the direction of the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission, we have authorized an evaluation of outstanding rivers in Washington State. This report documents the evaluation, and identifies 18 rivers which possess the natural, cultural, and recreational values that would make them suitable additions to the Washington State Scenic Rivers System. We'd like to thank the members of the Scenic Rivers Program Committee of Participating Agencies for their outstanding efforts on this project.

With the publication of this report, the initiative to protect these 18 rivers, and the many others in this state that are truly outstanding, passes to you. The effort to protect our exceptional rivers must begin in the hearts and minds of the citizens of this state. We can assure you that this agency stands ready to assist these efforts in any way possible, including, if local support exists, assistance in adding rivers to the Scenic Rivers System.

Thank you for your continuing interest in the Washington State Scenic Rivers Program. Comments on this report and the Program in general are welcome, and we invite you to express your support or concern to the Scenic Rivers Program staff at (206)753-1810.

Sincerely,

Steven Starlund
Manager, Washington State Scenic
Rivers Program

Jan Tveten
Director, Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission

Table of Contents

Acknowledgements	1
Introduction	2
Study Process	5
Regional Overview of Washington Rivers	10
River Evaluations	16
Scenic River Management and Designation	54
Conservation Actions	58
An Afterword	69
Appendices	71

Acknowledgements

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The authors would like to acknowledge the substantial contributions of Committee members: Jim Scott, Washington Department of Ecology; Lorinda Anderson, Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation; George Volker, Washington Department of Wildlife; Sam Wright, Washington Department of Fisheries; Jerry Probst, Washington Department of Natural Resources; Don Lund, Washington Department of Transportation; Doug Baker, Association of Washington Cities; and Pat Kubala, Washington Association of Counties. Thanks to Paul Agrimis for cartographic contributions.

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Introduction

In our intense and varied use of the rivers of Washington State today, it is easy to forget the vital link they form with the past and the future. These rivers sustain us, providing power, transportation, food and drink. Few elements of our daily lives are not enriched by the tremendous bounty of Washington rivers. Yet their present significance - the beauty and abundance we now enjoy - may overshadow another profound role that rivers play as a link between our lives, those of the first residents of this country, and those of the generations yet unborn.

The rivers of this country have been used and appreciated since long before there was a Washington State. For 10,000 years, the Indians of the Northwest have sustained themselves on these rivers, eating and drinking from them, moving along them, and migrating from one to another. The richness of the country's rivers contributed to the exceptional cultural richness of Northwest Tribes. The first white settlers - and the waves of immigration to follow - gravitated to water as well, locating their trading posts, their forts, and, ultimately, their towns and cities on Puget Sound and on the great rivers of the state.

Today, there are few rivers that do not bear evidence of the 10,000 year chain of use and settlement of Washington rivers that has preceded us. The historic and archeologic artifacts that remain of this legacy are among the most prized resources along rivers. Will the evidence that this era leaves behind on our rivers be as benign? Our generation enjoys an unprecedented opportunity to modify the rivers of the state. We have dammed, diverted, harvested, channelized, and otherwise harnessed Washington rivers in an unparalleled quest to capture their bounty and power. As we become more efficient in harnessing the resources of our rivers, we risk ever more pervasive and permanent alterations of their scenic beauty and natural quality. What will remain of Washington rivers for the next generations? Will some of the wild and free rivers we have inherited reach our sucessors in their natural, undammed state? If our sole focus - our measure of progress - is the efficiency with which we expend

the resources and wildness of our rivers, our grandchildren will not share the benefits of the wild and beautiful rivers that have passed to us along the 10,000 year old chain.

The Washington State Scenic Rivers Program was created by an act of the State Legislature in 1977 for the purpose of balancing the use and development of rivers with a concerted effort to protect a few of Washington's great rivers. The Scenic Rivers Act (Chapter 79.72 RCW) seeks to establish a balance between those rivers that will be harnessed for our needs today, and those we shall pass, unfettered and intact, to the next generation.

The regulatory elements of the Washington Scenic Rivers Program apply only to land already in public ownership. Private landowners and local governments are encouraged to undertake voluntary projects to provide additional protection to designated rivers.

One river and several tributaries form the Skykomish Scenic River system, the first designated Scenic River in the state. The focus of this report is to present an additional 18 rivers which have outstanding characteristics that make them worthy of consideration as additions to the Scenic Rivers System. The process for evaluating these rivers was conducted in 1987 by the Committee of Participating Agencies at the direction of the Washington Parks and Recreation Commission, the agency charged with administering the Scenic Rivers Program. This Committee is formed of representatives of the Washington Departments of Ecology, Fisheries, Transportation, Wildlife, and Natural Resources, the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation, the Association of Washington Counties, the Washington Association of Counties, and two citizen representatives. Additional help was provided by the National Park Service under the Rivers and Trails Assistance Program, which provides advice and technical assistance to state and local agencies involved in river and trail conservation programs.

The report first describes the methods used to evaluate the rivers of Washington State and define those which are truly outstanding. The 18 rivers selected with these methods are then identified and discussed. The report concludes with a

discussion of techniques available to landowners, local governments, and state and federal agencies to protect the qualities of these outstanding rivers.

It is important to note that, although this evaluation was conducted under the auspices of the Washington Scenic River Program, the ultimate responsibility for protecting the outstanding rivers of Washington is shared by all of the state's citizens. With the publication of this report, the initiative for protecting these 18 rivers passes to those citizens. Much of the power to protect them will rest in local hands; no public action can replace the importance of wise use by the people who live along the state's great rivers. If there is a local commitment, the state stands ready to assist communities to protect rivers through the State Scenic River Program. Working together, the public and their agencies can see that the heritage of wild and beautiful rivers we enjoy today is our legacy for generations to come.

Study Process

Criteria

As stated in the Introduction, this report will present 18 rivers that have the potential, by virtue of their outstanding characteristics, for designation into the Washington State Scenic Rivers System. The process for selecting 18 rivers from the hundreds in Washington State was complex, requiring both an objective analysis of previously-collected river information and a more subjective evaluation of scenic, natural, and recreational values. The following discussion examines this selection process in more detail.

The first obstacle in selecting candidate rivers was conceptual, not analytical. What constitutes an "outstanding" river? What value or combination of values is important in a potential State Scenic River? The Washington State Scenic Rivers Act establishes certain criteria for Scenic Rivers, stating that "ideally, a Scenic River:

1. Is free-flowing without diversions that hinder recreational use;
2. Has a streamway that is relatively unmodified by riprapping and other streambank protection;
3. Has water of sufficient quality and quantity to be deemed worthy of protection;
4. Has a relatively natural setting and adequate open space;
5. Requires some coordinated plan of management to enhance and preserve the river area; and
6. Has some lands along its length already in public ownership, or the possibility for purchase or dedication of public access and/or scenic easements." (RCW 79.72.060)

These criteria serve as good indications of the combination of natural, recreational, and social values that the Legislature considered in drafting the Scenic Rivers System Act, and serve well to determine whether specific candidates for designation

meet Scenic River standards. However, there were two challenges in applying these criteria to a statewide study of potential candidates. First, the ambiguity of some standards (ie. "relatively" unmodified, "relatively" natural) made it difficult to use these factors to either select rivers for or discard them from consideration. Second, the criteria seem to discount the inherent quality of natural, cultural, recreational, and scenic values along potential candidates. The Act elswhere indicates that these resource values are of fundamental importance in Scenic River designation and management.

As a result, the Committee of Participating Agencies supplemented the criteria in the Act with additional factors they felt were important to consider in defining candidates for State Scenic River status. They felt that scenic rivers should also:

1. Have a variety of exceptional natural, cultural, or recreational resources on and along them;
2. Have exceptional scenic quality; and
3. Have long, continous segments with exceptional values.

In addition, the Committee decided that the Scenic River System as a whole should have certain characteristics, stating that it should:

4. Represent all of the geographic regions of Washington State; and
5. Represent the range of development in landscapes along rivers, from the most primitive to rural to urban/suburban.

The criteria, in sum, represent standards for an "outstanding" river and an ideal image of what a Scenic River ought to be. There remained the task of applying these criteria to the hundreds of rivers in Washington State to determine those that deserve further consideration for the State Scenic Rivers System.

First Sort: Resource Quality

The first step in the actual study process was to determine which rivers had the variety of exceptional natural, cultural, and recreational values required of Scenic River candidates. Several new river inventories have only recently made it possible to do a statewide analysis of the quality of river resources. The most notable is the Pacific Northwest Rivers Study, funded by the Bonneville Power Administration and conducted by state and federal agencies in the four Northwest states. This computerized inventory contains information on fisheries, wildlife, other natural features, recreation, and historic and archeologic resources along more than 2,000 river segments in Washington State. River segments are rated on a value scale from "outstanding" to "limited" for each resource. Because of the emphasis on a variety of exceptional resources in the Scenic River criteria, the first selection step was to identify all river segments in the Rivers Study data base with more than one resource with an "outstanding" rating. This step resulted in the identification of 385 river segments.

The other sources of resource information used in the selection process were special fisheries studies compiled by the Washington Departments of Wildlife and Fisheries, and the Nationwide Rivers Inventory. The fisheries studies identified 24 rivers with outstanding resident fisheries and 18 with oustanding anadromous fisheries. The Nationwide Rivers Inventory, published by the U.S. Department of the Interior in 1982, was developed to identify rivers which would, by virtue of their exceptional natural, cultural, scenic, or recreation resources, qualify for further consideration for the National Wild and Scenic River System. The Inventory identified 26 rivers in Washington State that meet these criteria.

Resource Mapping

The second step of the process was to map all of the segments and rivers identified as outstanding in the resource inventories: the 385 reaches from the Pacific Northwest Rivers Study, the 24 resident fishery and 18 anadromous fishery rivers from the fisheries studies, and the 26 rivers from the Nationwide Rivers Inventory. Mapping was done at the 1:500,000 scale on USGS base sheets.

After all resource information was mapped, public meetings were held throughout the state to introduce people to the Scenic Rivers Program in general and the selection process specifically. While participation was less than hoped for, the response to the presentations was enthusiastic.

Second Sort: Continuous Length of Segments

Because of the emphasis on long, continuous segments in the Scenic River criteria, the next step was to determine which rivers had long reaches that had been identified as outstanding under one or more of the resource inventories. On the basis of a visual examination of the resource inventory maps, 56 rivers were identified that met this criteria. While segments were not actually measured, it is estimated that the minimum length of segments was approximately 25 miles. In a few cases, rivers which had breaks in outstanding segments were included on the list of 56 rivers if they had been rated as outstanding over much of their entire length.

Third Sort: Geographical Distribution, Expert Opinion

The 56 rivers defined after the first two sorts are all exceptional and deserving of protection. They have therefore been described formally as "Rivers Under Consideration" in the Scenic Rivers Program, and will receive study for potential designation by the Program staff and Committee of Prticipating Agencies as time and budget allow. The "Rivers Under Consideration" list is included in Appendix A. Because it was apparent that all 56 rivers could not be sufficiently evaluated in this study process, additional sorts were developed to determine which would be appropriate for immediate Scenic River consideration. The next step in this sequence was to choose the best candidate or candidates in each of the major geographic areas of Washington State. The basis for these choices was the expert opinion of members of the Committee of Participating Agencies and leaders of local river conservation groups. While this was a subjective evaluation, the breadth of experience among the evaluators made this a credible basis for choosing rivers for immediate consideration. In two steps, the list of rivers under study was reduced to 26 rivers.

Field Evaluations

Tours were conducted on the 26 rivers remaining in the study process. Where possible, the Committee and other evaluators floated the study segments. Elsewhere, evaluations were conducted from parallel roads. The purposes of the field evaluation were to familiarize the evaluators with the rivers and to photograph and conduct scenic evaluations of the rivers corridors. Scenic values were recorded on a consistent Scenic Evaluation Worksheet. The 26 rivers evaluated in the field and the Scenic Evaluation Worksheet are enclosed in Appendix B.

The field analysis also included small meetings with local river interests in communities along the river under consideration. In some instances, local citizens accompanied the evaluators on field trips along the rivers. These local contacts provided a useful introduction to issues and concerns in riverfront communities.

Fourth Sort: Geographical Distribution, Expert Opinion

Based on the goal of providing geographical diversity in the Scenic Rivers System, the Committee again reviewed the study rivers in each geographical region of the state. Several areas, including the Olympic Peninsula and Puget Sound regions, had many rivers on the list of 26 rivers. On the basis of expert opinion, this list was reduced to 18 rivers. Having passed through sorts on natural, cultural, and recreational resource value, continuous length, geographical distribution, and scenic value, these 18 rivers are those described further in this report as initial candidates for the Washington State Scenic Rivers System.

Regional Overview of Washington Rivers

There is no "typical" Washington river. The rivers of Washington share the great diversity of the State's geography. Each distinct region - from the forested slopes of the Olympic Peninsula to the rolling grasslands of the Palouse - has a distinct system of rivers and streams, unique in qualities and character. One of the primary purposes of the Washington State Scenic Rivers Program is to capture this regional diversity in a unified, statewide system of protected rivers. The candidate rivers discussed later in this chapter were chosen as the best representatives of the regions of Washington State.

Washington rivers flow directly into three major bodies of water: the Columbia River, the Puget Sound, and the Pacific Ocean. Each of these bodies has a network of streams and rivers which feed directly into them. Collectively, these streams and rivers and the land along them form a drainage basin or watershed. One of the most common systems for dividing Washington into regions uses the three major drainage basins - Columbia River, Puget Sound, and Pacific Ocean - shown on the attached map (Figure 1).

While drainage basins are a useful and accurate way to describe rivers in Washington, they do not fully describe the distinctions that most affect the character of a river landscape. This character depends not only on the destination of a river's waters, but also on the mosaic of landform, vegetation, and climate that defines a regional landscape like the Olympic Peninsula. These characteristics define a system of bioregions of Washington State, illustrated in Figure 2. The candidate rivers discussed in following pages were chosen as representatives of the six bioregions of the State. Each borrows unique features of the bioregion it flows through.

The westernmost region is the Olympic Peninsula, represented on the candidates list by the Wynoochee, Humptulips, Soleduck, and Duckabush. This area is dominated by the looming presence of the Olympic Mountains. Rivers in this region commonly have rocky, turbulent headwater reaches. On smaller streams, flow remains swift and channels rocky to their confluence with the Ocean or the Sound; larger rivers have meandering segments within broader valleys downstream. Anadromous fish and a great variety of wildlife inhabit these river valleys. Variations in rainfall account for substantial differences in vegetation, as well as the difference in flow and size of rivers, on the east and west slopes of the Peninsula. Isolation and lack of arable land have contributed to the sparse settlement of this region; tourism and recreation on National Park and Forest lands and timber management on public and private lands remain the mainstays of local economies.

The next rivers discussed, the Nooksack, the Stillaguamish, the Carbon, and the Green, are part of the Western Cascade Mountain region. As with the Olympic Peninsula, the dominant feature in this region is a mountain range. The Cascade Range is characterized by steep volcanic peaks, dense fir and hemlock forests, and abundant rain and snow. Rivers undergo dramatic physical transformations in their paths from mountainous headwaters to lower elevations. Alpine torrents raging through rocky canyons become placid rivers meandering through wide valleys. Anadromous fish and wildlife thrive on these rivers. The lower river valleys, with land predominantly in private ownership, support the cities and towns of western Washington. The upper segments are commonly within National Forest or Park land.

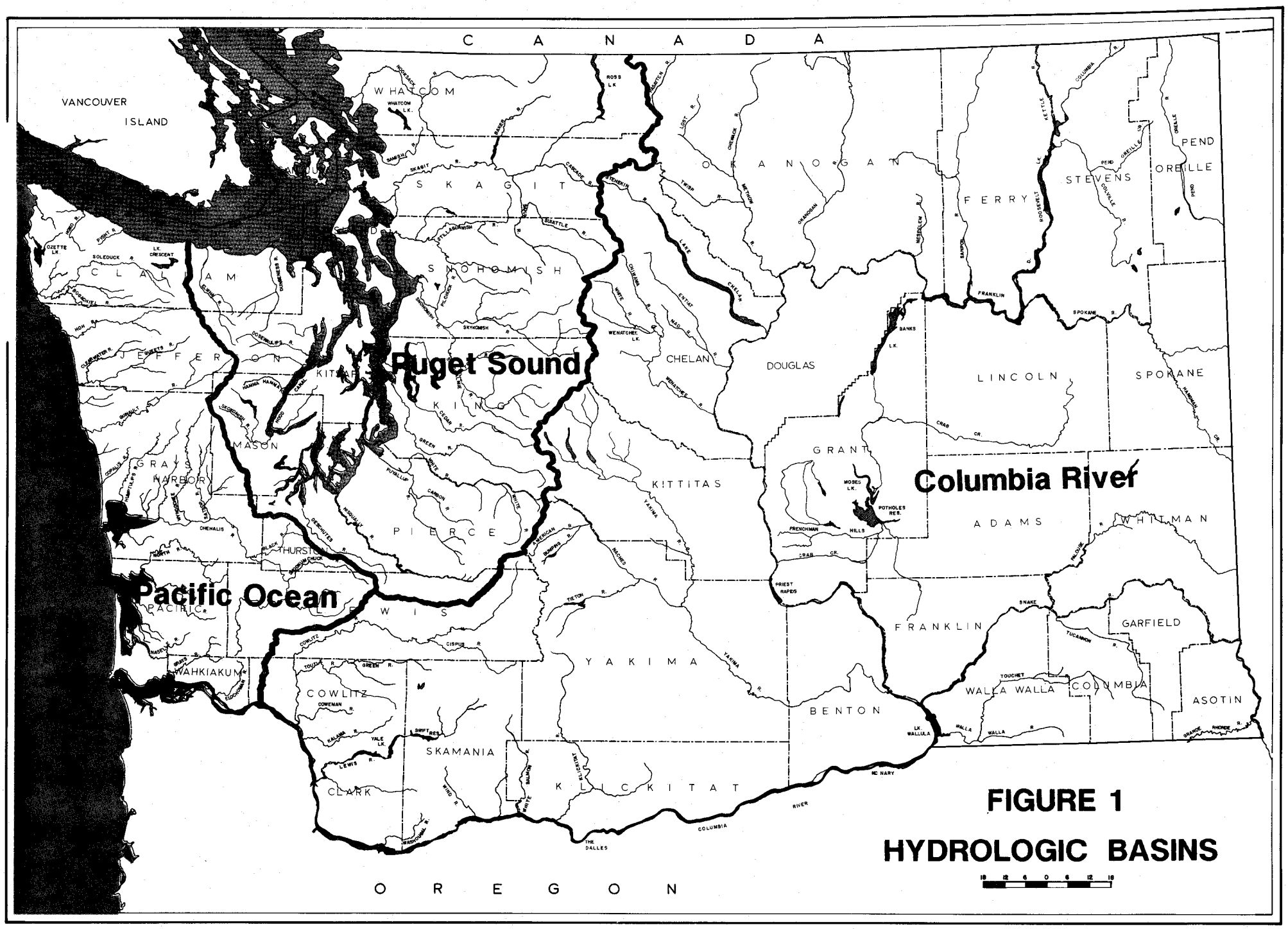
Further east is the Eastern Cascade Mountain bioregion and the Wenatchee and Methow rivers. Although this region shares the distinctive feature of the Cascade Mountains, the decline in precipitation on the eastern slope results in dramatic changes in landform, vegetation, and wildlife. Eastside rivers are fewer, longer, and more sparsely vegetated than their western counterparts. Canyons and swift, sinuous streamcourses replace the broad valleys and meanders of the westside. Although less hospitable, the river corridors in this region support a distinctive variety of wildlife. Small towns, fruit orchards, and ranches dot the lower segments of these rivers; upper reaches are mostly in National Forest land.

The Lower Columbia region, in southwestern Washington, is represented on the candidates list by the Cispus, Lewis, Washougal, and White Salmon rivers. Lacking the high elevations of the previous regions, the Lower Columbia landscape is characterized by rolling hills, broad valleys, and a mixed coniferous/deciduous forest. Most of the rivers of the region have short steep headwater reaches and long segments of lower gradient and less turbulent flow. Many of these rivers have dams on their lower reaches which restrict the migration of anadromous fish, but retain good habitat for resident fish and diverse upland and riparian wildlife. National Forest land dominates the upper segments of these rivers, while the level, arable land of the lower valleys is heavily used for agriculture, small communities, and a few larger towns and cities.

East of the Cascades, the Columbia flows through the Middle Columbia/Snake River bioregion. The Hanford Reach of the Columbia and the Grande Ronde rivers are the two candidates from this region. The landscape of the region is characteristic of the arid Columbia Basin of eastern Washington, eastern Oregon, and southwestern Idaho: rolling hills, dry plains, and shrub steppe vegetation. A few large rivers drain vast areas of this region; they are slow moving and low in gradient. Some have incised deep canyons in the basaltic rock of the Basin. The Middle Columbia/Snake region continues to support tremendous runs of anadromous fish despite the impacts of dams on the Columbia system; headwater streams and tributaries feature abundant resident fish and wildlife habitat as well. This region is sparsely settled, with a few larger communities at the confluences of major rivers and a dispersed pattern of irrigated and dryland farms.

The northeastern section of the State comprises the Upper Columbia region, represented by the Kettle and Little Spokane rivers. Unlike much of eastern Washington, this region features hilly terrrain with some prominent mountains and conifer forest. The rivers of the region tend to have somewhat steeper gradients and deeper canyons than others in the eastern part of the state. Although the Chief Joseph and Grande Coulee Dams block all anadromous fisheries in the Upper Columbia region, the area supports a great diversity and abundance of resident fish and wildlife habitat. This region is also sparsely populated. Lack of arable land has restricted settlement to the small towns throughout the region.

Six distinct regions, six special groups of rivers. Individually, the 18 rivers discussed on the following pages are outstanding examples of the unique natural, cultural, and recreational resources of their regions of the State. Collectively, they constitute a potential system of State Scenic Rivers that fully reflects the great diversity of the landscape of Washington State.


C A N A D A
VANCOUVER ISLAND
WHATCOM
SKAGIT
SNOHOMISH
OKANOGAN
FERRY
STEVENS
PEND OREILLE
CLALLAM
JEFFERSON
KITSAP
KING
CHELAN
DOUGLAS
LINCOLN
SPOKANE
GRANT
MASON
GRAYS HARBOR
KITTITAS
PIERCE
ADAMS
WHITMAN
THURSTON
Puget Sound
Columbia River
Pacific Ocean
PACIFIC
LEWIS
FRANKLIN
GARFIELD
WAHKIAKUM
YAKIMA
COWLITZ
BENTON
WALLA WALLA
COLUMBIA
ASOTIN
SKAMANIA
CLARK
KLICKITAT
O R E G O N
FIGURE 1
HYDROLOGIC BASINS

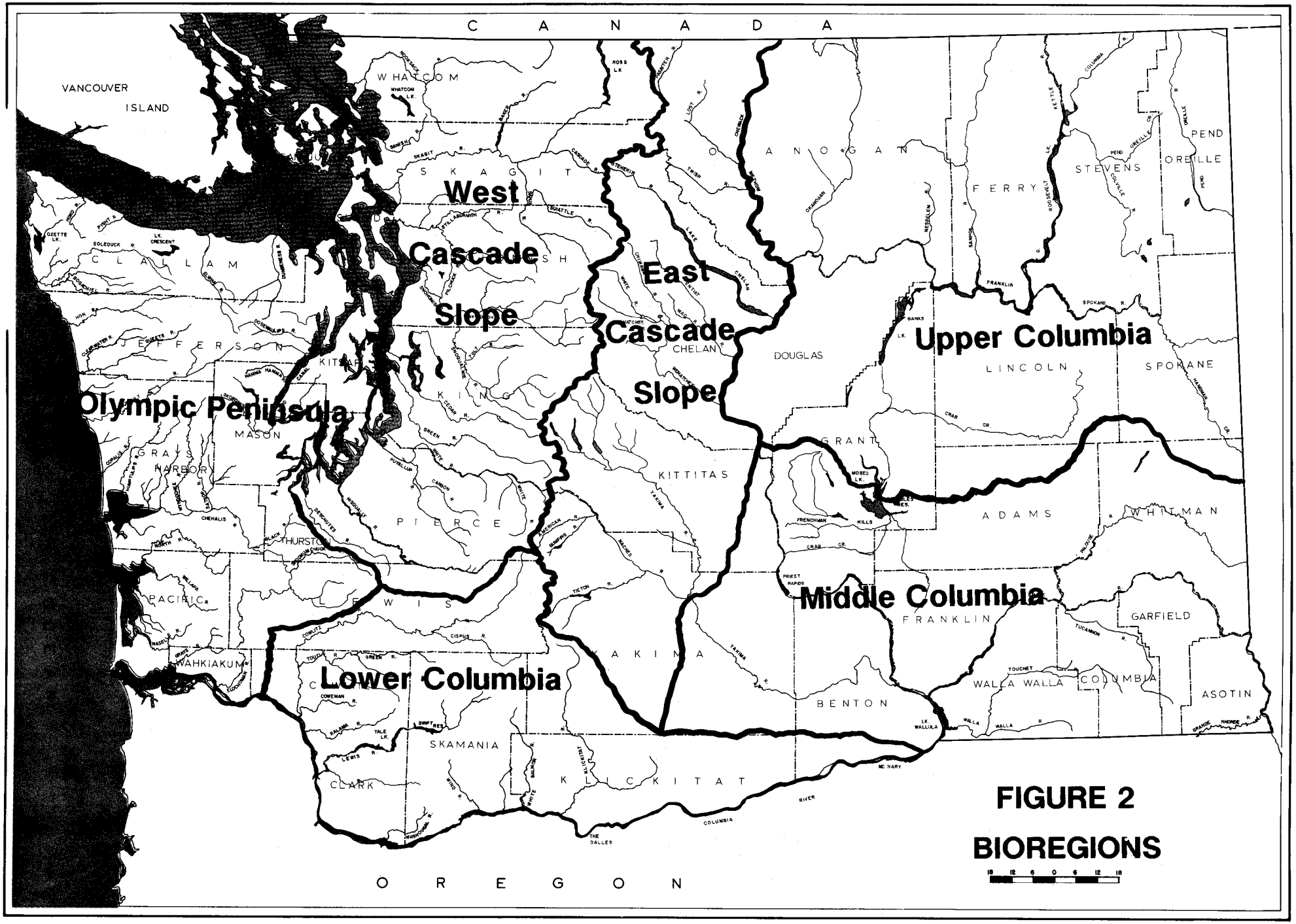


FIGURE 2

BIOREGIONS

River Evaluations

The following rivers are described in evaluations in this chapter:

Carbon
Cispus
Columbia (Hanford Reach)
Duckabush
Grande Ronde
Green
Humptulips
Kettle
Lewis
Little Spokane
Methow
Nooksack
Soleduck
Stillaguamish
Washougal
Wenatchee
White Salmon
Wynoochee

The descriptions are based on the following sources of information:

Type of Information	Source
Pacific Northwest Rivers Study (natural, cultural, recreational)	Bonneville Power Administration Washington State Energy Office
Nationwide Rivers Inventory (natural, cultural, recreational)	National Park Service
Fishery and hatchery information	Washington Department of Fisheries Washington Department of Wildlife
Rare plant/plant community information	Washington Natural Heritage Data Base

Cultural site information	Washington State Office ofArcheology and Historic Preservation
Recreation information	Guidebooks, National Park Service, local anglers and other user groups
Scenic quality information	Field evaluations

CARBON

Reach:

Headwaters at Carbon Glacier, Mt. Rainier to confluence with Puyallup River.

Outstanding Features:

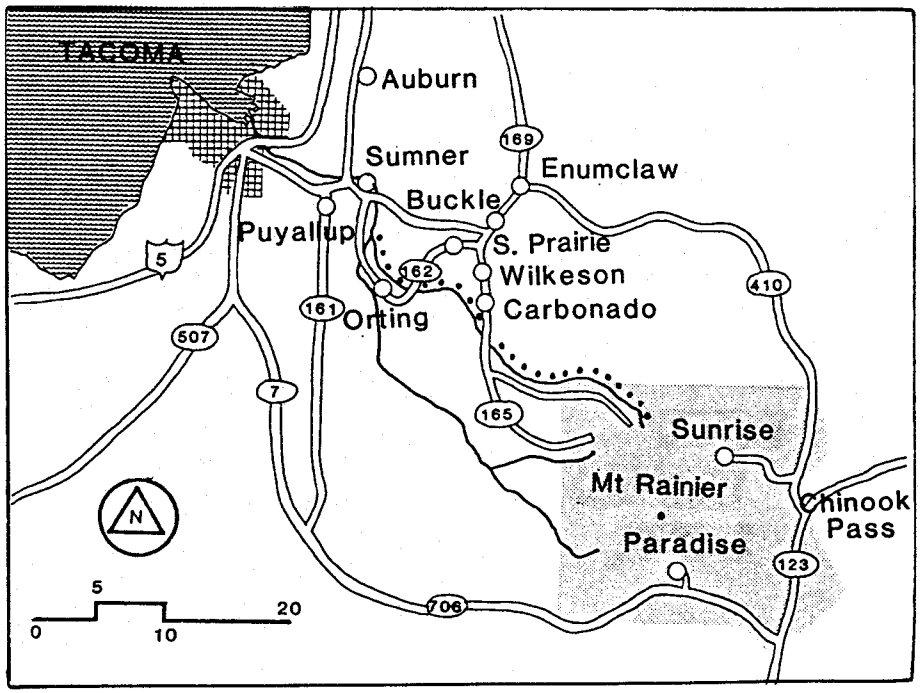
Wild and free-flowing river from glacier beginning through a wide forested valley and into a spectacular gorge. Wildlife and salmon spawning habitat all along its length. Backdrop of Mt. Rainier.

Access:

Most of the river is parallelled by road yet there is little access to the river except along dikes along the lower reaches. Access is available in the Mt. Rainier National Park.

Use, Ownership and Management:

Ownership along the river is mixed federal, state and private with a predominance of private ownership along the lower reaches. Land use is forestry or agricultural in the upper valley and dispersed residential and agricultural along the lower portion. Land use issues would include state logging practices within the designated corridor and access to the river; visually and pedestrian.



Resources:

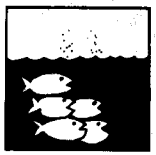
Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or diversions. Originates on the northwest slopes of Mt. Rainier and is fed by glacier and snow melt. Upper reaches are characterized by wide cascading boulder strewn river, moves quickly into a broad forested floodplain and then into a narrow and steep gorge. Lower reaches are braided streambeds.

Historical coal mining is in evidence through the Carbonado area.

Vegetation:

Bordered by dense conifer forest and well-developed riparian zone.



Fish:

A protected wild steelhead river; open only for catch and release fishing. Excellent spring chinook spawning habitat.

Wildlife:

Excellent, heavily used deer and elk winter range in upper ranges. Good riparian habitat through segment.

Scenic:

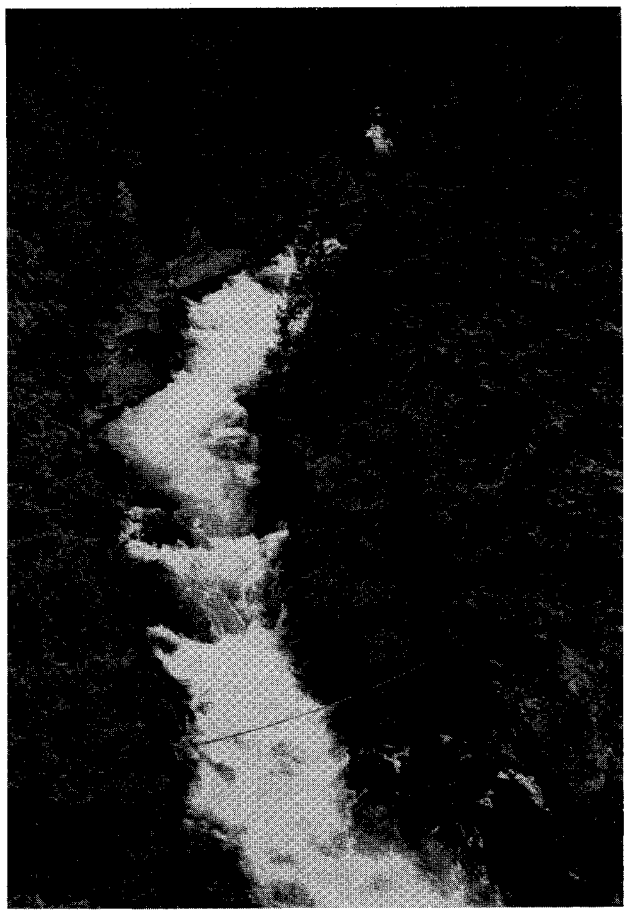
Upper reaches have excellent vistas of Mt. Rainier. Mid and lower segments are enclosed and nearly inaccessible to public by road, trail or boat. Historic coal mining towns offer distinctive cultural view along the roadway following the river course. Farmlands are characteristic in the lower valley.

Historic and Archaeologic:

Coal mining towns including Carbonado are recognized on the State Registry of Historic Places.

Recreation:

Expert white water kayaking is only a recent use of the river for recreation. Public vistas are few and are mostly shallow road pull-offs. Trails along the river exist on the dike in the lower valley, but there is no public access developed. Camping and trails of excellent quality exist in the National Park. Pierce County has plans for a trail system along the dike up the river for approximately 15 miles.



CISPUS

Reach:

Headwaters to confluence with Cowlitz River.

Outstanding Features:

Scenic recreational river with minimal development. High quality resident fish and wildlife habitat.

Access:

Most of the river is paralleled by road. Access to water at several USFS sites.

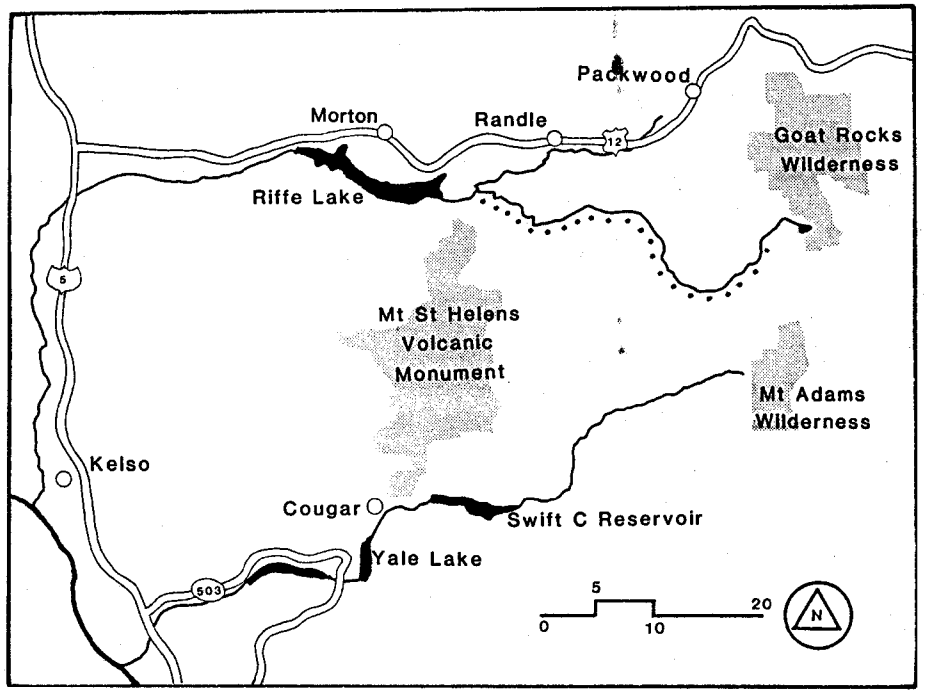
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Predominantly in Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Some logging within river corridor. Scattered private lands in lower corridor in dispersed residential use. Headwaters of mainstream in Goat Rocks Wilderness.

Resources:

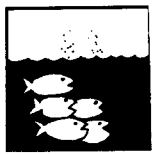
Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or diversions. Originates on west slope of Cascade Mountains. Cascading alpine stream in upper reaches, swiftwater with numerous rapids in lower segments. Tower Rock and Cispus Falls are prominent geologic landmarks.



Vegetation:

Bordered by dense conifer forest and well-developed riparian zone. one plant species on State's Threatened Plant list.



Fish:

Blocked to anadromous fish by downstream dams. Excellent habitat for rainbow and cutthroat trout, supplemented by hatchery production.

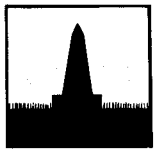
Wildlife:

Excellent, heavily-used deer and elk winter range in upper reaches. Some spotted owl habitat in old

growth forest. Good riparian habitat throughout segment.

Scenic:

Visual corridor enclosed by dense vegetation; few intrusions visible. Some views into Cascade ranges.

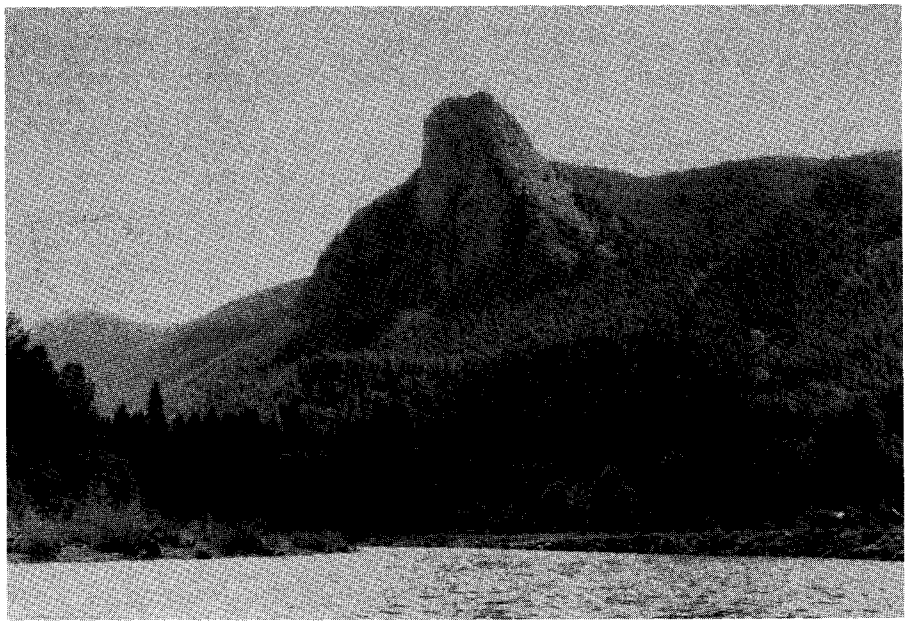


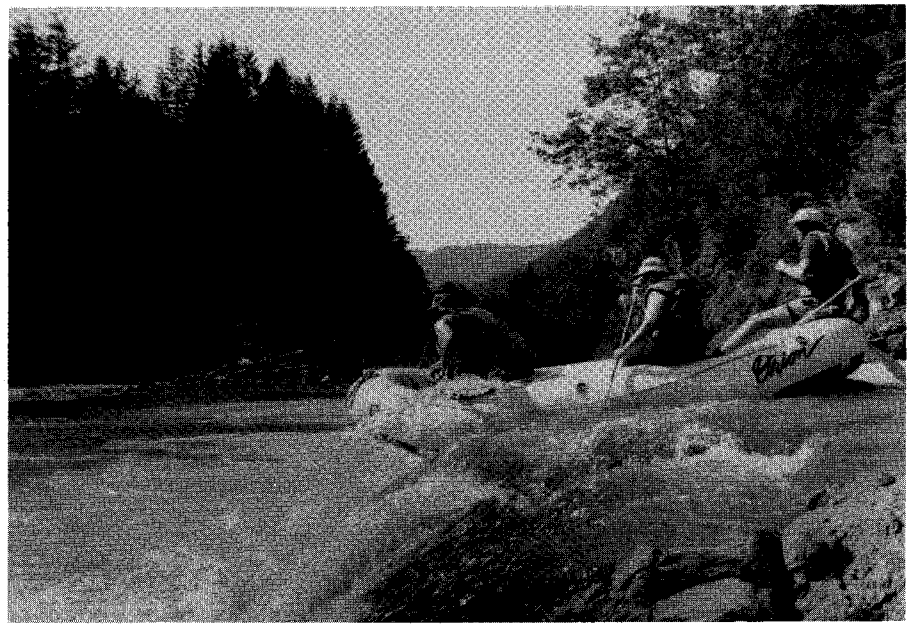
Historic and Archeologic:

Important prehistoric fishing area, recognized in State Registry of Historic Places.

Recreation:

Upper reaches are excellent for intermediate to expert whitewater boating. Lower segments are not as challenging. Camping and day use at Forest Service campgrounds at Iron Creek and Tower Rock.





COLUMBIA

Reach:

"Hanford Reach;" Priest Rapids Dam to Richland city limits.

Outstanding Features:

Excellent fish and wildlife habitat. Interesting flatwater boating experience.

Access:

No public roads parallel this segment. Access to water limited to bridge crossings and public sites at Ringgold and Richland.

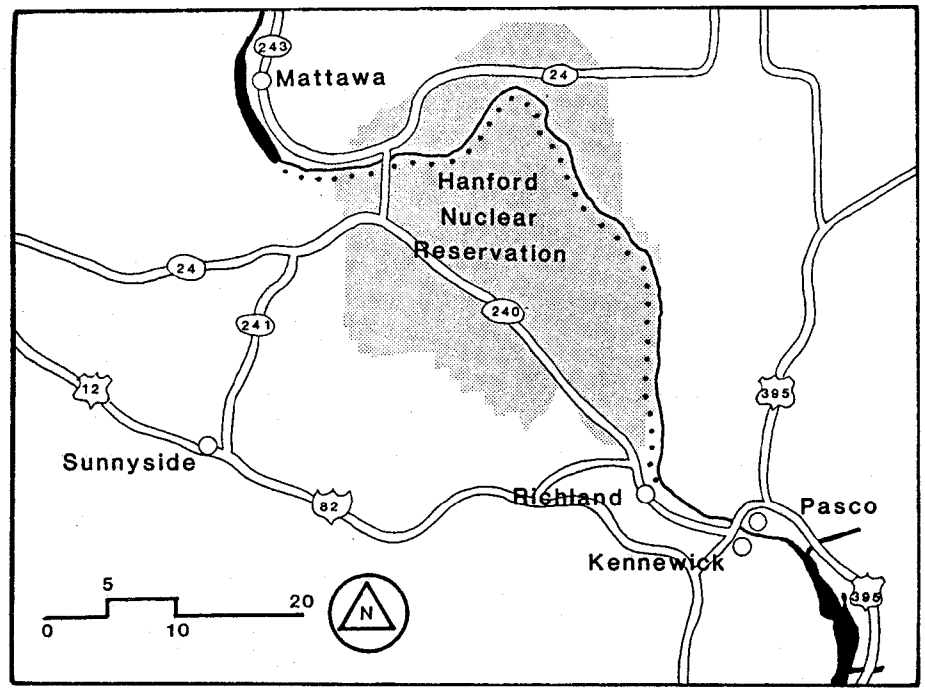
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Almost entirely in federal ownership. Bordered by Hanford Nuclear Reservation on the western bank and state and federal wildlife refuges on the eastern bank.

Resources:

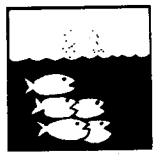
Geology and Hydrology:

Although regulated by upstream dams, this is the last major undammed and unimpounded segment of the Columbia. Sinuous, low gradient channel bordered by rolling hills and distinctive sandstone cliffs. Potential National Natural Landmark at Hanford Dunes.



Vegetation:

River is bordered by sagebrush steppe communities on uplands and well-developed riparian area on riverbanks and islands. Several plant species on State's Sensitive Plant list; one candidate for federal list. Potential Arid Lands National Natural Landmark.



Fish:

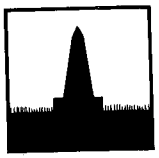
Last remaining major spawning area for fall chinook salmon ("upriver brights"). Species has high commercial and Tribal cultural significance. Also used by steelhead trout and coho and sockeye salmon.

Wildlife:

Feeding and/or nesting habitat for bald eagles, Swainson's hawks, white pelicans, and numerous waterfowl and songbird species. Two endemic aquatic species, a limpet and a spire snail, are candidates for the Federal Rare and Endangered Species list.

Scenic:

Sweeping vistas of rolling hills, white cliffs, and islands. Some disturbance due to Nuclear Reservation structures on western bank.



Historic and Archeologic:

Important prehistoric fishing and camping area. Numerous sites on State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Recreation:

Scenic multi-day flatwater float, restricted by difficulties with access and shortage of public use areas. Some boat fishing for chinook and steelhead.

DUCKABUSH

Reach:

Entire length.

Outstanding Features:

Exceptionally scenic recreational corridor; excellent wildlife habitat.

Access:

Lower quarter paralleled by road. Access on remainder by trail only.

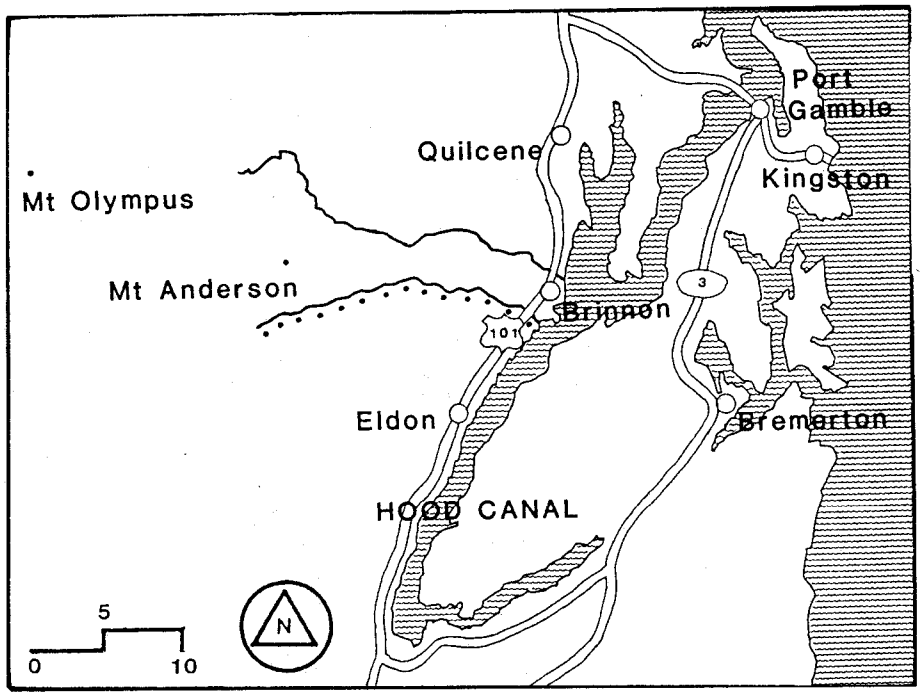
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Upper half within Olympic National Park, with lower half in Olympic National Forest except for lower 2 1/2 miles, which is in private ownership and limited residential use.

Resources:

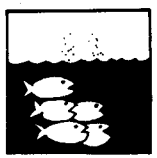
Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or diversions. Arises on the west slopes of the Olympic Mountains. Headwaters feature numerous cascades and falls bordered by steep rock cliffs and canyons. Corridor widens and decreases in gradient downstream.



Vegetation:

Alpine meadows in upper headwaters change to dense conifer forests (some old growth) in middle and lower reaches. Well-developed riparian zones and salt marsh in lower reaches.



Fish:

Falls prevent anadromous fish migration seven miles above mouth. Good pink and chum salmon spawning areas below; also used by sea-run cutthroat and steelhead trout.

Wildlife:

Good riparian and forest habitat supports deer and elk, bald eagles, waterfowl, and furbearing mammals.

Scenic:

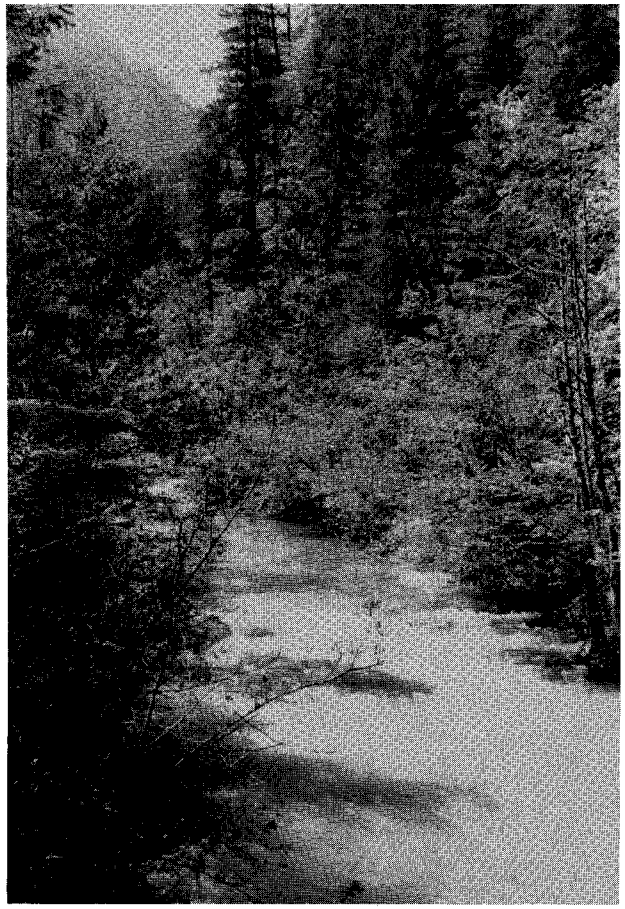
Visual corridor, tightly enclosed by topography and vegetation, is occasionally highlighted by waterfalls, gorges, and views of Olympic peaks. Virtually no intrusions above river mile three.

Historic and Archeologic:

Duckabush River Bridge on the National Register of Historic Places.

Recreation:

Moderately heavy use by hikers, campers, and day users. Some expert whitewater kayaking on lower segments.



GRANDE RONDE

Reach:

Oregon-Washington border to confluence with Snake River.

Outstanding Features:

Excellent multi-day boating trip. Popular area for steelhead fishing. High quality fish and wildlife habitat.

Access:

Minor road parallels upper third of segment, with several public access sites. Lower segments accessible only through private ranches except at confluence with Snake.

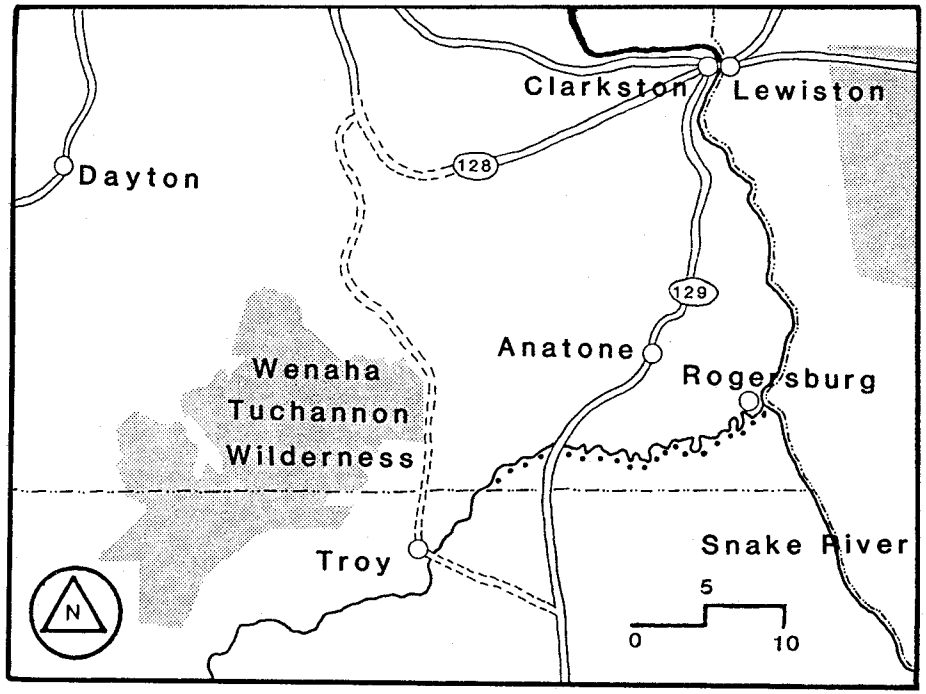
Use, Ownership, and Management

Ownership predominantly private, in ranching and open space uses. Some Bureau of Land Management land intermixed.

Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

Lower segment of a major Columbia Basin river arising in the Blue Mountains of Eastern Oregon. Flows slowly, with few rapids, through undulating hills and prominent basalt canyons. Prominent volcanic features, including many sills and feeder dikes of basalt.



Vegetation:

Sagebrush steppe communities accompanied by sparse pine forest border this segment. Riparian areas limited due to topographic constraints and grazing.

Fish:

Excellent summer steelhead trout run, supplemented by hatchery production. Also used by spring chinook salmon and resident rainbow trout.

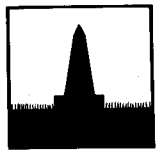
Wildlife:

Canyon uplands heavily used by bighorn sheep, whitetail and mule deer, and nesting raptors

(including golden eagles). Some bald eagle use of lower reaches.

Scenic:

Natural qualities of the upper corridor landscape disturbed by prominent parallel road and numerous houses. Lower segments are very primitive in appearance, with dramatic natural features and few cultural intrusions.

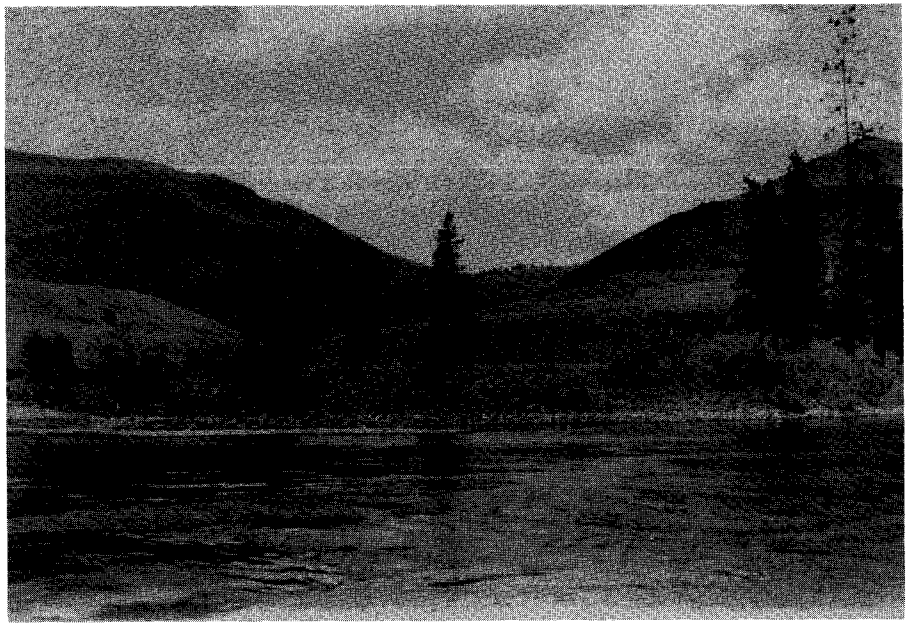


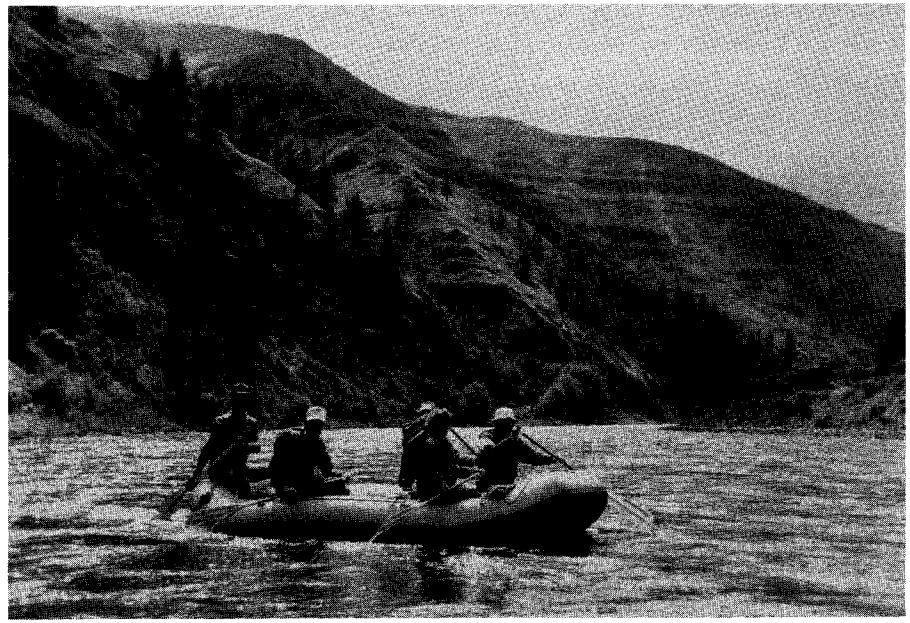
Historic and Archeologic:

Lower river in Snake River Archeological District, an important prehistoric fishing and camping area listed in the National Register of Historic Places.

Recreation:

Excellent multi-day boating trip, one of few in Washington State. Not as heavily used as Oregon segment, although increasingly popular for steelhead fishing. Fishing access at two Department of Game sites.





GREEN

Reach:

Kanasket-Palmer State Park to City of Kent.

Outstanding Features:

Excellent recreational river in close proximity to Seattle. Good fisheries. Lower reaches offer excellent natural areas in a rapidly urbanizing area.

Access:

Paralleled by roads, with some public access to water, in lower reaches of segment. Access limited to state parks in upper reaches of segment.

Use, Ownership, and Management:

Upper reaches (Kanasket-Palmer State Park to Flaming Geyser State Park) in state ownership and management as the Green River State Conservation Area. Lower reaches predominantly private in agricultural, dispersed residential, and suburban residential uses.

Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

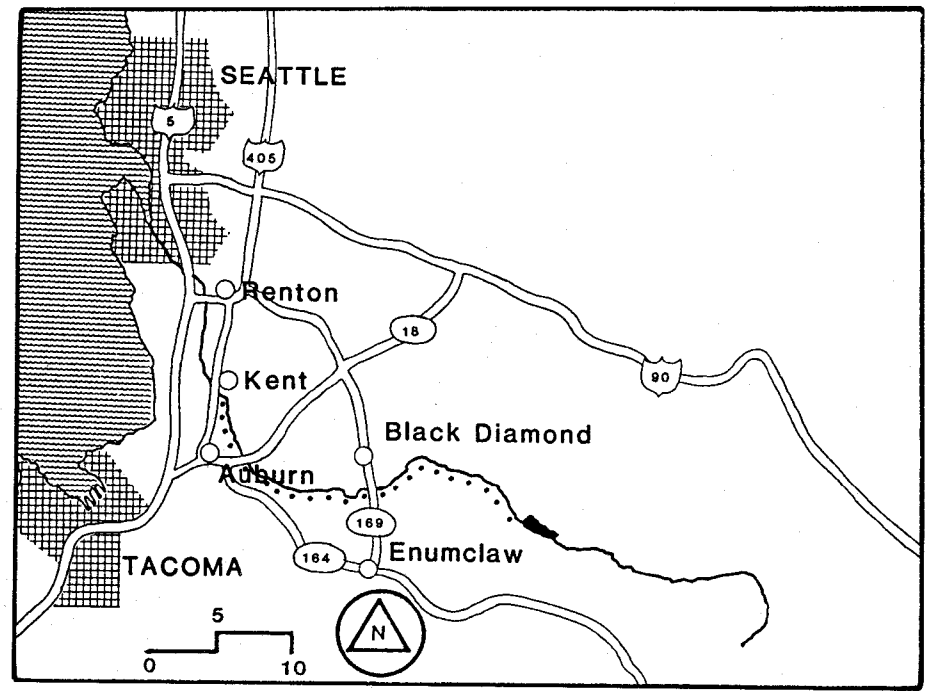
Flow regulated by Army Corps of Engineers Howard Hansen Dam. Swift turbulent stream flows through steep gorge in upper reaches of segment. Lower reaches meander through broad floodplain.

Vegetation:

Upper segment bordered by dense conifers and well-developed riparian zone. Natural vegetation disturbed or replaced in lower segments, with discontinuous riparian areas remaining.

Fish:

Large runs of fall chinook salmon and winter steelhead trout. Also used by summer steelhead and coho salmon. Washington Department of Fisheries hatchery on Soos Creek.

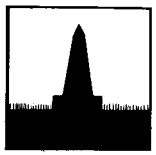


Wildlife:

Extensive development of lower reaches limits habitat to discontinuous riparian areas used by geese and other waterfowl. Osprey and other raptors nest within the gorge reaches.

Scenic:

Gorge area is enclosed and very primitive in appearance, with few cultural intrusions. Lower segments of varying visual quality, alternating between pastoral agricultural landscapes and less compatible suburban scenes.



Historic and Archeologic:

Prehistoric petroglyphs in gorge area. Several historic sites on State and National Registers of Historic Places, including Georgetown Steam Plan and Aaron Neely, Sr. Mansion.

Recreation:

Gorge segment is an excellent, highly-challenging expert whitewater boating run. Use is substantial during periods of suitable releases from the upstream dam, which generally occur until May. Heavily fished for fall chinook and steelhead. State parks are actively used for day use and picnicking. Camping is available at Kanasket-Palmer State Park and the DNR's Green River Gorge Campground.

HUMPTULIPS

Reach:

East and West Forks and mainstem to town of Humptulips.

Outstanding Features:

Excellent fish and wildlife habitat. Diverse recreational use. Little disturbance of natural features.

Access:

Paralleled by state, local, and forest roads for most of its length. Easy access via numerous public and private sites.

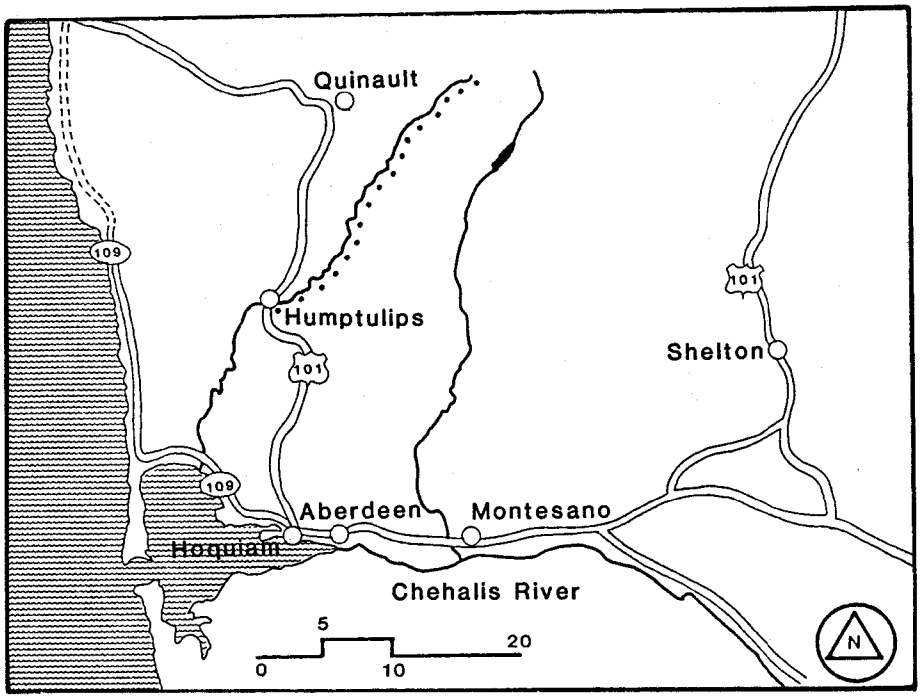
Use, Ownership, and Managment:

Upper half of both forks within Olympic National Forest. Private lands downstream mostly in timber production.

Resources:

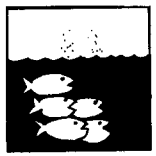
Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or diversions. Originates on southwestern slopes of Olympic Mountains. Steep rocky segments in headwaters, including a gorge on the West Fork, with meandering reaches within a broad valley downstream.



Vegetation:

Bordered by dense hemlock forest (some old growth) and well-developed riparian zones.



Fish:

Major runs of steelhead and sea-run cutthroat trout, and chinook, chum, and coho salmon. Chinook and coho runs supplemented by Washington Department of Fisheries hatchery on Stevens Creek. West Fork supports good spawning populations of rainbow and cutthroat trout.

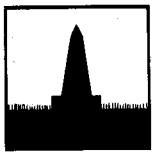
Wildlife:

On lower segments, good riparian habitat supports waterfowl and furbearing mammals. Heavy bald

eagle use. Upper segments have excellent, heavily-used deer and elk winter range in a mix of old and second growth forest.

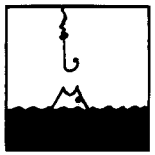
Scenic:

Visual corridor somewhat enclosed by bank topography, forest, and mature riparian zones. Aside from some evidence of timber harvesting on upper reaches, few intrusions visible.



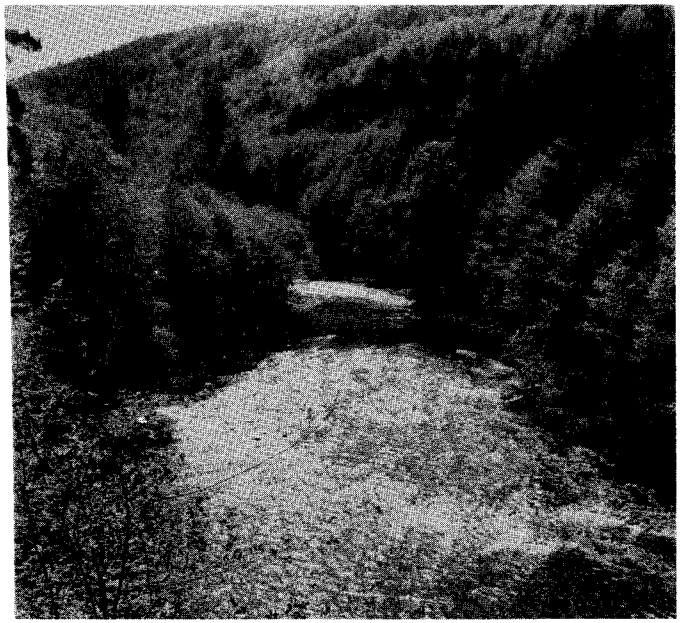
Historic and Archeologic:

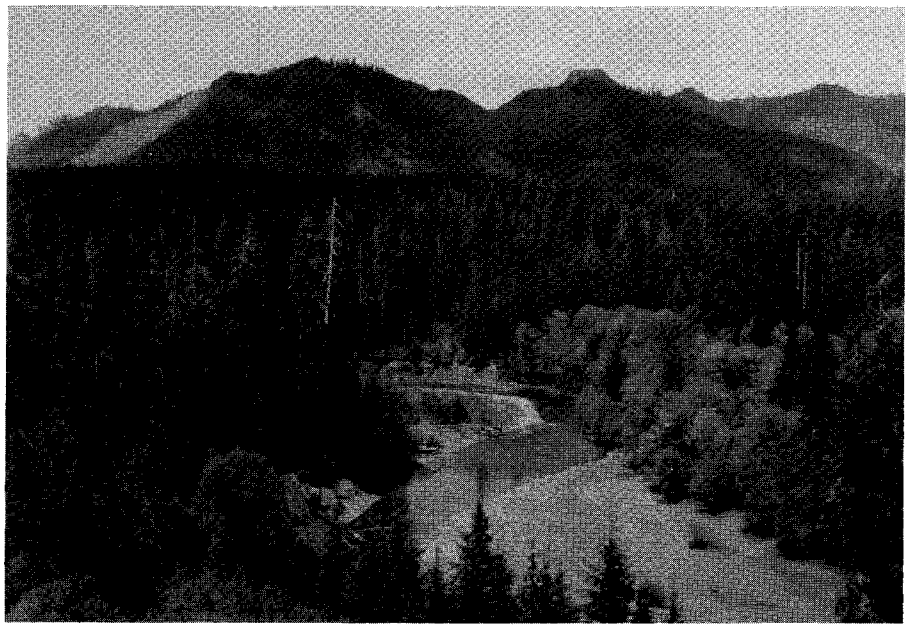
Several significant historic sites, including log shelters and Olympic National Forest guard station.



Recreation:

Actively used by steelhead and sea-run cutthroat anglers; fished from banks and driftboats. Camping and day use on upper reaches. Challenging expert whitewater boating run on East Fork.





KETTLE

Reach:

Entire U.S. segments to backwater at Lake Roosevelt.

Outstanding Features:

Exceptional, diverse wildlife. High quality float trip. Harmonious development through river corridor.

Access:

Parallelled for entire length by state or local roads.

Use, Ownership, and Management:

Almost entire reach in private ownership, with National Forest land in upper sections of watershed.

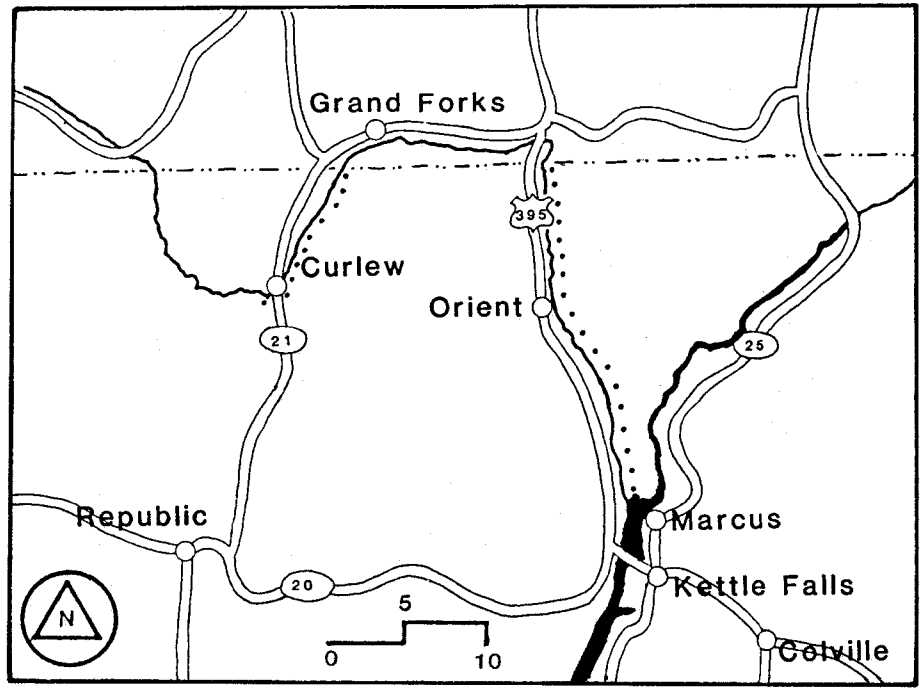
Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or diversions. Flows among peaks and ranges of Okanogan Mountains. Low gradient meandering stream. Two Triassic fossil beds.

Vegetation:

Sparse grasses and Ponderosa pine on rolling hillslopes. Lush willow-cottonwood riparian zones along river.

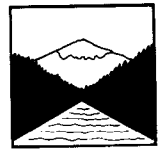


Fish:

Anadromous fish blocked by Lake Roosevelt downstream. Excellent historic rainbow and cutthroat habitat, with populations currently depressed by fishing pressures.

Wildlife:

Excellent whitetail and mule deer habitat. Bald eagle nesting throughout the segment, with golden eagle nesting in upper reaches. Bighorn sheep and cougar habitat.



Scenic:

Length of views vary, with corridor alternately enclosed by steep hillsides and opening

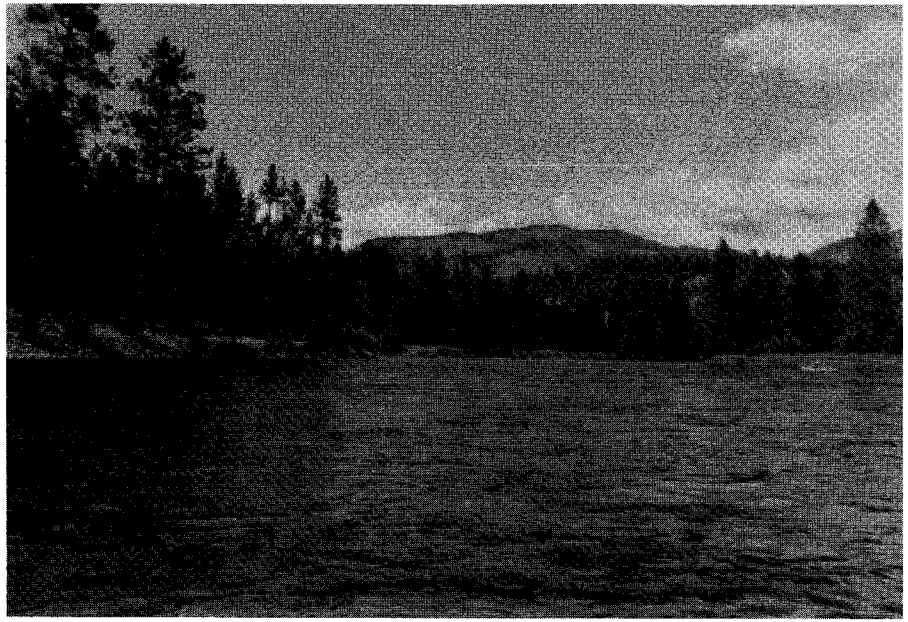
expansively to surrounding hills. Signs of development are infrequent and harmonious with natural character.

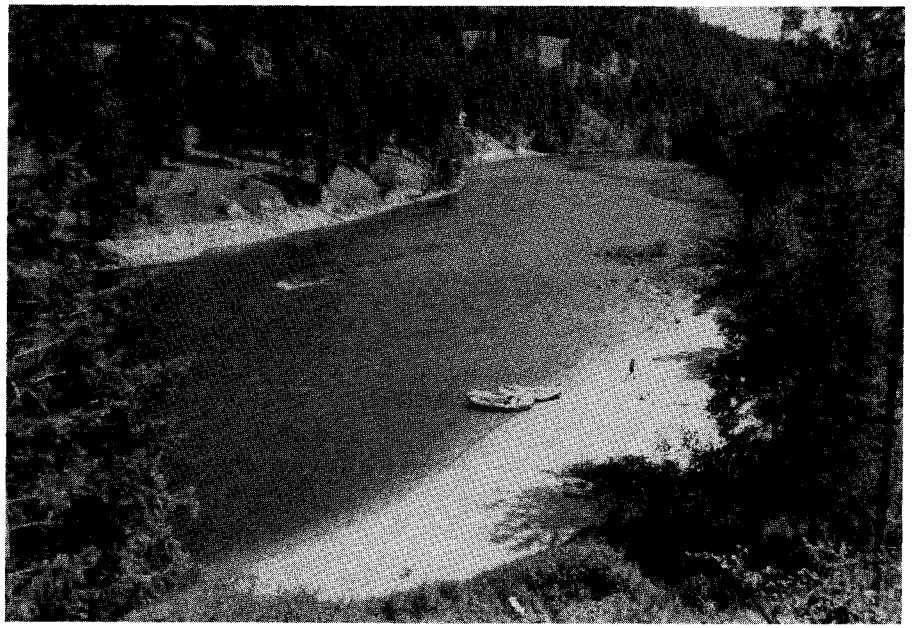
Historic and Archeologic:

Several historic sites on National Register of Historic Places, including the Curlew School, the Curlew Bridge, and the Ansurge Hotel.

Recreation:

Good flatwater boating reaches in upper segment, with good whitewater boating between Barstow and Orient.





LEWIS

Reach:

From headwaters to backwater at Swift Reservoir.

Outstanding Features:

Very scenic, with numerous waterfalls and views of Cascade ranges. Outstanding for a variety of recreational activities, including hiking, boating, and fishing.

Access:

No roads parallelling the river. Access to water restricted to secondary and Forest road crossings, and to pedestrian use of parallel trail.

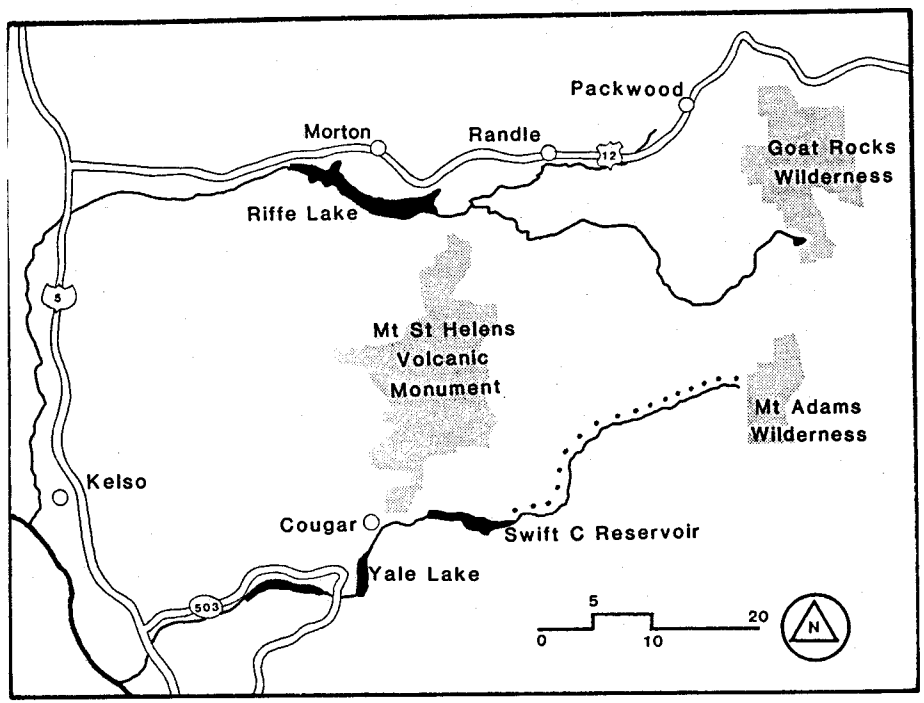
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Almost entirely in Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Heavily logged in lower segments.

Resources:

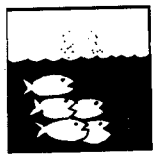
Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by upstream dams or diversions. Originates on west slopes of Mount Adams. Several major falls on mainstem in upper reaches and on tributaries on lower segments.



Vegetation:

Bordered by dense conifers, including several stands of old growth timber, and dense riparian zones. One plant species on State Threatened Plant list and one candidate for federal list. Lower segment disturbed by logging.



Fish:

Blocked to anadromous fish by downstream dams. Excellent habitat for rainbow and cutthroat trout.

Wildlife:

Excellent deer and elk winter range. Mixed old growth - second growth forest supports spotted owls and osprey.

Scenic:

Visual corridor enclosed by dense vegetation; some views into Cascade ranges. Little disturbance except in lower logged segments.

Historic and Archeologic:

Several historic homesites and prehistoric villages are listed on the State Register of Historic Places.

Recreation:

Excellent beginner to intermediate whitewater boating from Lower Falls to head of Swift Reservoir. Very scenic trail, actively used by anglers, parallels the river from Lower Falls to Rush Creek.

LITTLE SPOKANE

Reach:

East of Highway 395 to Confluence with Spokane River.

Outstanding Features:

Undisturbed meandering river valley with a rich diversity of wildlife, waterfowl, (a heron rookery); indian pictographs and passive recreation opportunities.

Access:

The lower reaches of the river are within the Little Spokane Natural Area administered by the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission. Several canoe launches exist in addition to hiking trails. River can be viewed by several county roadways.

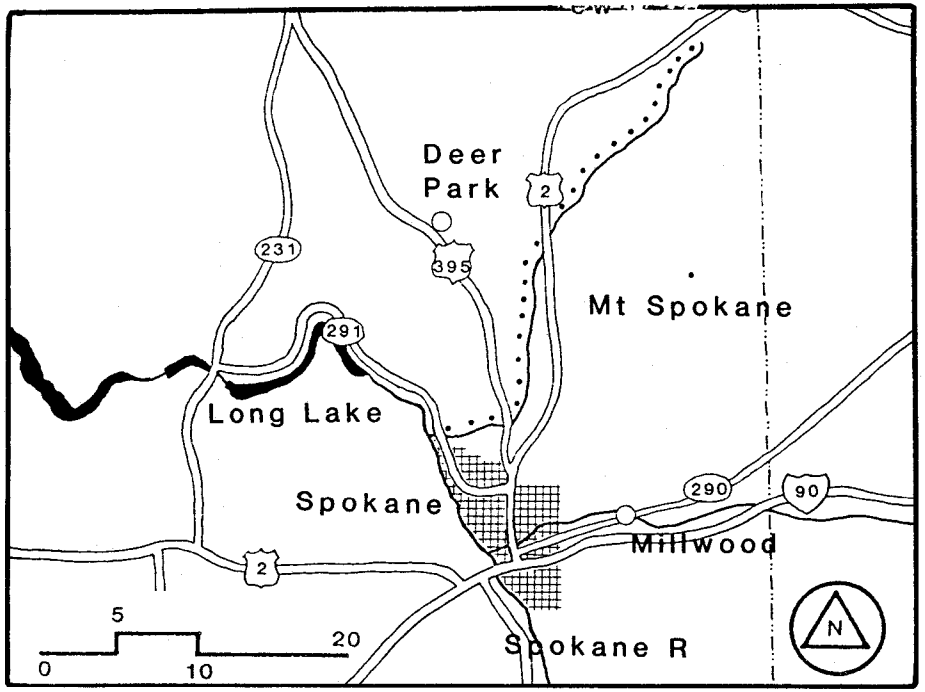
Use, Ownership and Management:

Outside of the State Parks lands, the dominate landowner is small private land ownerships. River issues include water quality, control of public access and public use of the river; trespass and protection of the habitat and wildlife within the valley.

Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

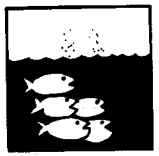
The river drains a 435,000 acre watershed extending far to the north and east. Springs



contribute to a high summer flow and cold water. The meandering river valley is bordered by steep granite bluffs. A large freshwater marsh environment exists within the Natural Area and is unique to this area.

Vegetation:

Predominately bordered by Ponderosa pine forests on the north slopes and mixed Douglas fir forest communities on the south slopes of the valley. The floodplain is a lush marsh environment intermixed with thickets, grassy pastures and dense colonies of tall yellow iris.



Fish:

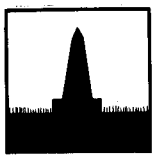
Trout and whitefish are prevalent throughout the river; trout are normally caught 15-18 inches. The river is excellent habitat for trout with swift, cold water, insects and deep pools.

Wildlife:

The wide diversity of habitat from freshwater marsh to meadow land and forest cover provide a rich abundance of waterfowl, birds of prey and upland mammals. Deer range along the wooded slopes and down to the river and coyote are prevalent. A Great Blue Heron rookery is located in a cottonwood stand in a secluded swamp.

Scenic:

The visual corridor of the river valley is uninterrupted except for small roadway bridges which are nearly hidden by the riparian vegetation. The visual impression of the river is one of seclusion and isolation from urban development. Several rural homesteads appear along the valley but are not intrusive. This is a very pristine area.

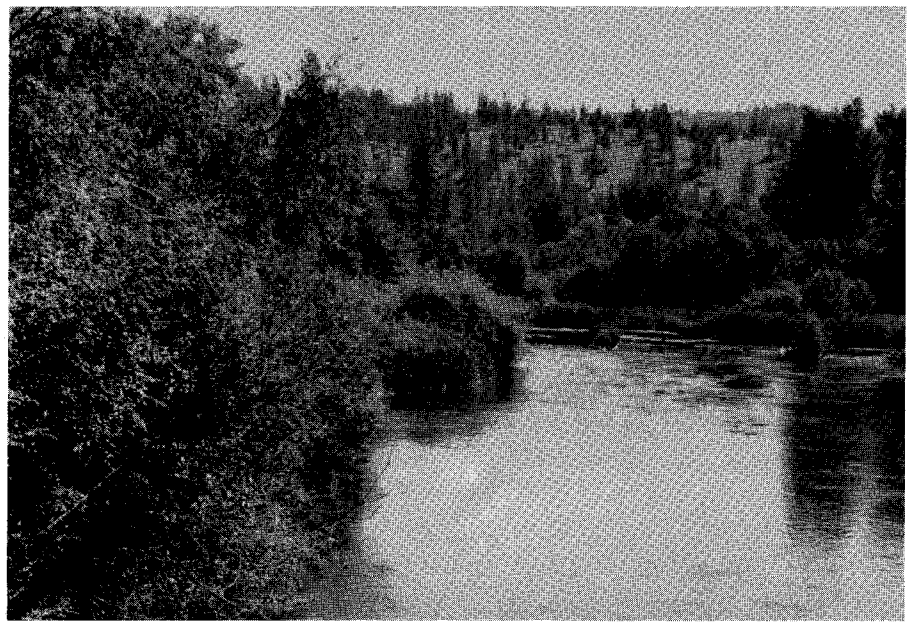


Historic and Archaeologic:

This entire valley is recognized as a prehistoric fishing and camping area. The Indian Rock Paintings site is recognized on the state registry of Historic Places.

Recreation:

The lower reaches of the river are noted for canoeing and floating areas. Trails along the banks of the river valley are used by hikers and horse riders. Access to the river and developed facilities is the only restriction to increased recreational use.



METHOW

Reach:

Headwaters to the confluence with the Columbia River, including the Chewack and Twisp Rivers.

Outstanding Features:

Scenic and ecologically diverse eastern Washington river system. Heavily used for a variety of recreational activities. High quality habitat for a variety of wildlife.

Access:

Entire maninstem parallelled by major road, with smaller roads bordering the Chewack and Twisp Rivers.

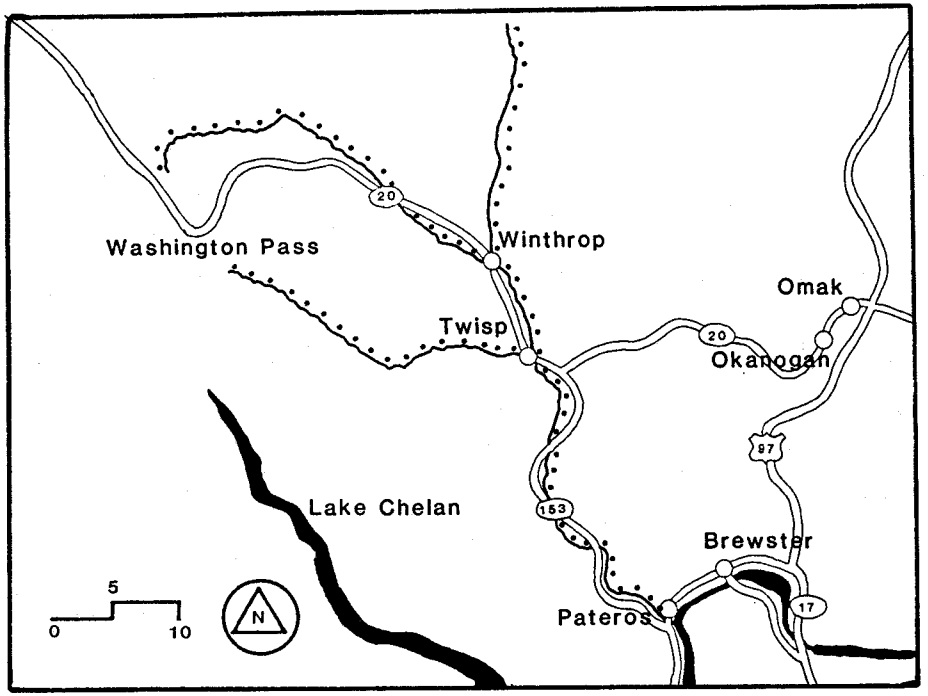
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Headwaters of mainstem and Chewack and most of Twisp River within Okanogan National Forest. Remainder is predominantly private, in residential, small community, and agricultural uses.

Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or major diversions. Originates on eastern slopes of northern Cascade Mountains. Tributaries are swift alpine streams; mainstem winds in smaller rapids and swiftwater segments though a broad canyon.



Vegetation:

Pine forest dominates upper tributaries. One species on State Threatened and several on State Sensitive plant lists. Forest and shrub steppe vegetation of downstream reaches is substantially disturbed by residential and agricultural uses. Discontinuous riparian zone.

Fish:

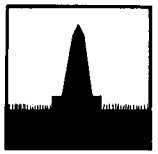
Good habitat for fall steelhead trout, summer and spring chinook salmon, and rainbow and cutthroat trout.

Wildlife:

Golden eagles, spotted and grey owls, turkeys, grouse, cougar, mountain goats, and moose inhabit the mixed old growth-second growth forests of the upper mainstem and tributaries. Lower segments feature excellent mule deer winter range and bald eagle habitat.

Scenic:

Visual corridors of the Chewack, Twisp, and upper mainstem are enclosed by vegetation and topography, and have distinct visual features. Expansive eastern Washington landscape, with generally compatible agricutural and small town land uses, dominates the scene downstream.

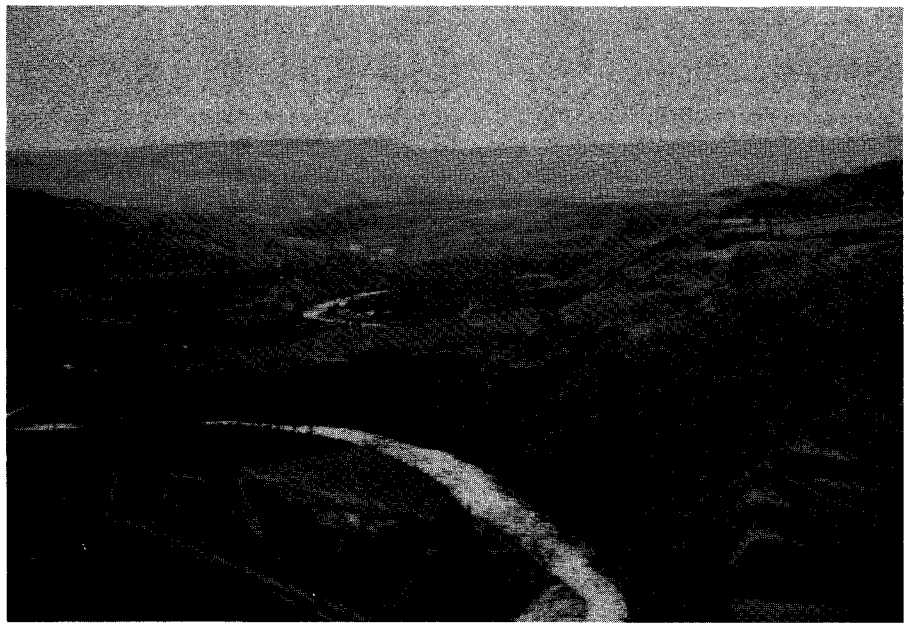


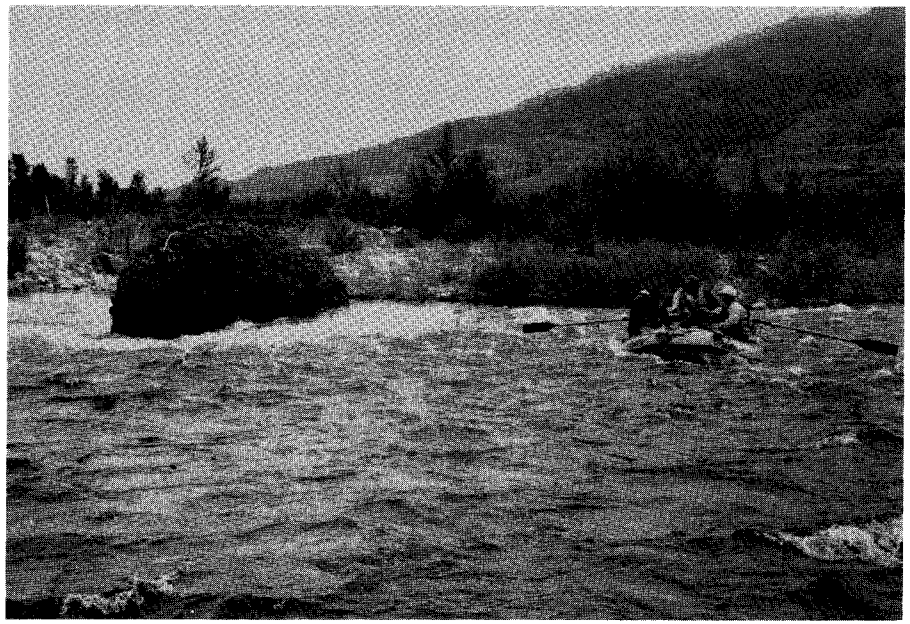
Historic and Archeologic:

Several prehistoric camping and fishing sites and historic burial sites on the State and National Registers of Historic Places.

Recreation:

Upper mainstem, Chewack, and Twisp are popular for camping and day use. Several National Forest campgrounds. Excellent intermediate whitewater boating on the Carlton to Pateros segment.





NOOKSACK

Reach:

South Fork and North Fork/mainstem above confluence with South Fork.

Outstanding Features:

Scenic alpine valley with diverse recreational use. Exceptional habitat for fish and wildlife. Little corridor development.

Access:

Entire reach paralleled by major roads. Easily accessed in several public sites.

Use, Ownership, and Management:

North Fork headwaters in North Cascades National Park. Much of upper segments of North and South Forks in Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest; some timber harvest in upper reaches. Lower segments privately owned, predominantly in agriculatural use.

Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or diversions. Glacier-fed stream arises on slopes of Mt. Baker and Mt. Shuksan. Steep alpine headwaters form braided, gravel-lined channels in lower reaches of this segment. Nooksack Falls is on the North Fork.

Vegetation:

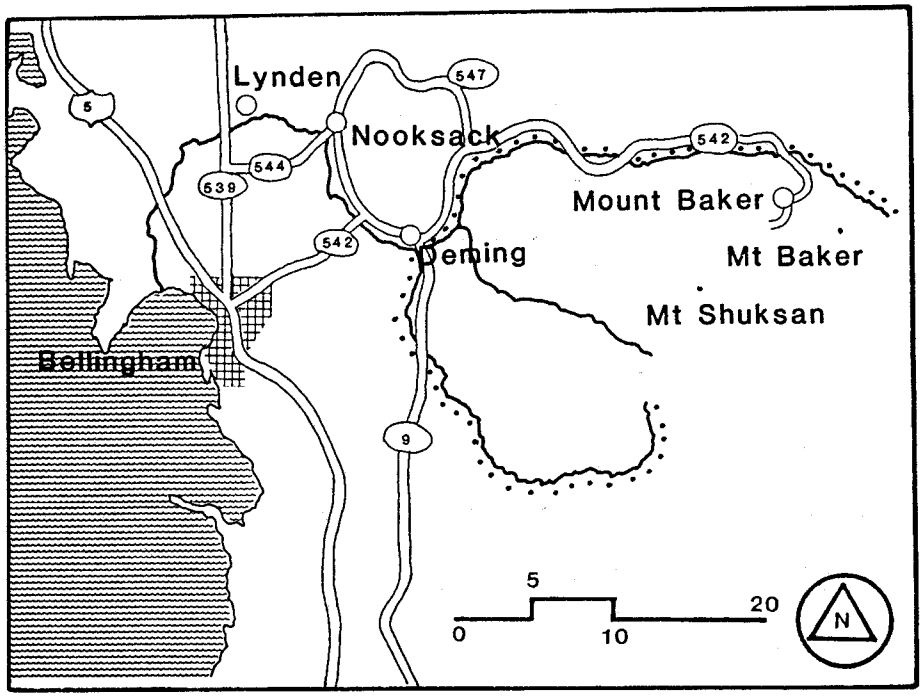
Bordered by dense conifer stands and well-developed riparian zone.

Fish:

Largest remaining spring chinook run in Puget Sound. Also used by pink, chum, and coho salmon. Two Washington Department of Fisheries hatcheries.

Wildlife:

Excellent, heavily-used elk and deer habitat on upper forks. Heavy bald eagle use on North Fork.



Scenic:

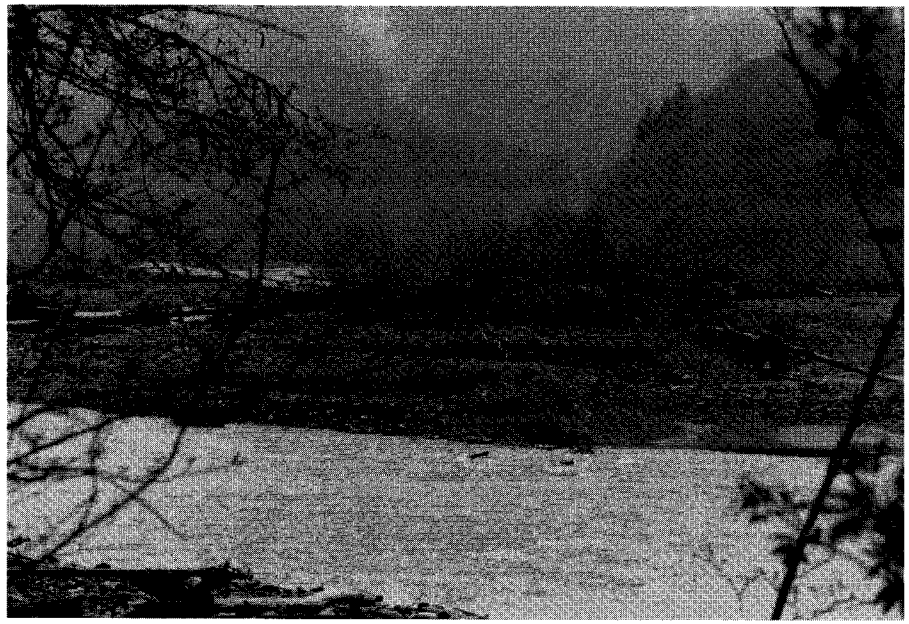
Large distinct features characteristic of young glacial stream, with little cultural development in this segment. Exceptional views to northern Cascades.

Historic and Archeologic:

Several significant historic sites, including early Forest Service cabins and the Hovander homestead, currently maintained as a county park.

Recreation:

Very diverse recreational use; popular for scenic driving, eagle watching, hiking and camping. North Fork is an excellent long-season whitewater boating reach, with some commercial rafting activity.



SOLEDUCK

Reach:

Headwaters to Highway 101 crossing near Forks.

Outstanding Features:

Diverse, high-quality area for recreational use. Excellent fish and wildlife habitat.

Access:

Paralleled by Highway 101 and smaller roads for most of its length, and by trail in uppermost reaches. Easy access to water at numerous public sites.

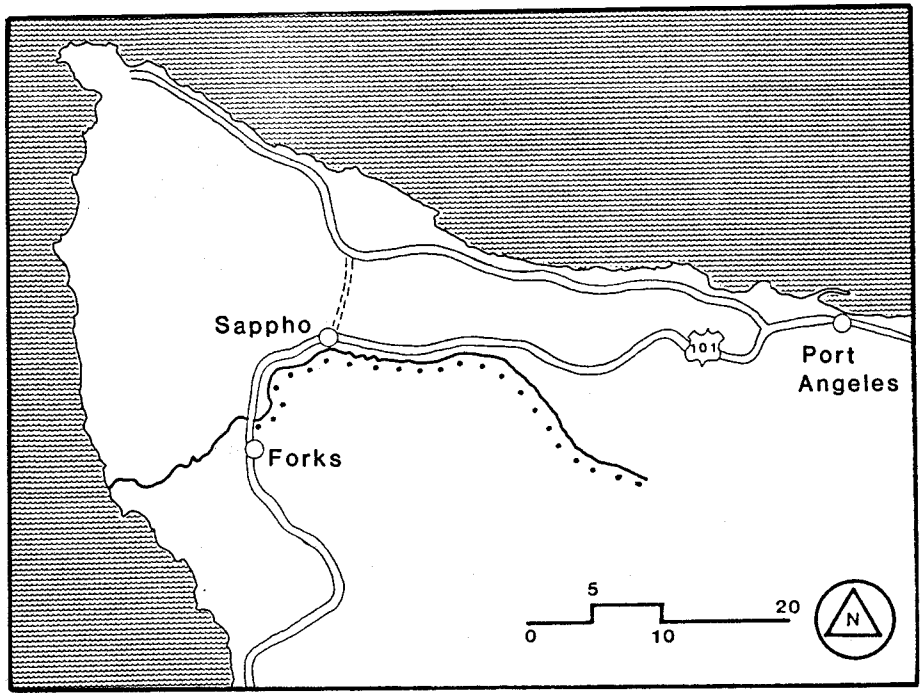
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Upper two-thirds of segment within Olympic National Park and Olympic National Forest. Lower third is private or state-owned land in limited timber production and residential uses.

Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or diversions. Originates on the northwest slopes of Olympic Mountains. Upper reaches feature confined rocky channels, numerous falls, and Soleduck hot springs. Lower reaches have lower gradient and less turbulent flow.



Vegetation:

Dense rainforest vegetation with well-developed riparian zones parallel the river.

Fish:

Used by chinook, coho, pink, sockeye, and chum salmon and steelhead and sea-run cutthroat trout. Washington Departments of Wildlife and Fisheries hatchery programs supplement natural chinook, coho, and steelhead production.

Wildlife:

Heavily used by bald eagles for feeding and nesting. Excellent riparian and old growth/second growth habitat for deer and elk, waterfowl,

furbearing mammals, and, in upper segments, black bear.

Scenic:

Visual corridor tightly enclosed with dense vegetation. Some views of Olympic peaks. Few intrusions visible in upper reaches; some houses, timber harvest, and other uses visible in lower segments.

Historic and Archeologic:

Several significant prehistoric village sites and historic homesteads in this segment.

Recreation:

Heavily used by campers and day users visiting the Olympics and the hot springs resort, and by steelhead anglers.

STILLAGUAMISH

Reach:

Headwaters of North and South Forks to Puget Sound

Outstanding Features:

Fisheries, particularily on the North Fork. Excellent diverse recreation in close proximity to Seattle area. Scenic farming landscape on lower segments.

Access:

Both Forks paralleled by roads; water easily accessible in numerous public sites.

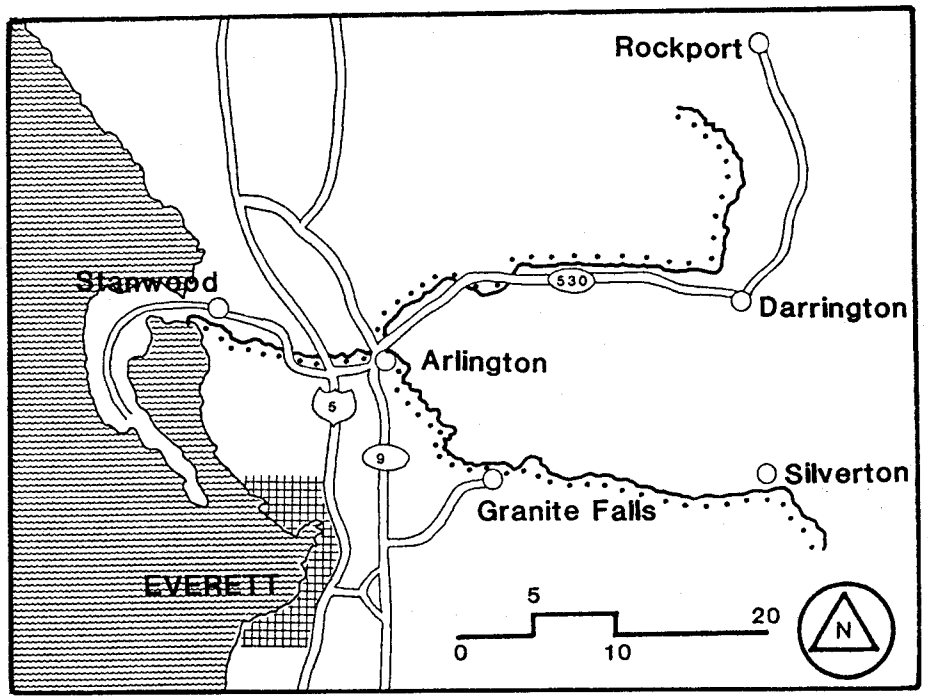
Use, ownership, and management:

Upper South Fork in Mt Baker-Snoqualmie National Forest; some logging in headwater areas. Remaining segments predominantly in private ownership and diverse use, including agriculture, dispersed residential, and small communities.

Resources:

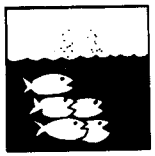
Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams or major diversions. Flows from west slope of Cascades. Swift, gravelly headwaters flow into meandering channel in broad floodplain approaching the Sound. Granite Falls and fossil beds along the South Fork.



Vegetation:

Dense conifer forest with well-developed riparian zone along upper river. Isolated freshwater wetlands, with sphagnum bogs and cedar stands, along South Fork. Well-developed riparian zone and salt marsh along lower river, with forests replaced by agricultural uses.



Fisheries:

Excellent spawning and rearing habitat for genetically distinct summer steelhead trout runs are currently depressed by logging in the watershed. Also used by sea-run cutthroat trout, rainbow trout, and chum, pink, and chinook salmon.

Wildlife:

High quality riparian habitat on lower reaches supports a a great diversity of waterfowl and furbearing mammals. Wintering area for bald eagles and other raptors, including peregrine falcons. Upper segments are good deer winter range. Some mountain goat habitat on upper South Fork drainage.

Scenic:

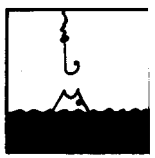
Prominent alpine features of upper river are rarely compromised by intrusions. Good views of Cascade peaks. Lower river has distinctive pastoral character, with placid river meandering among well-kept farms.

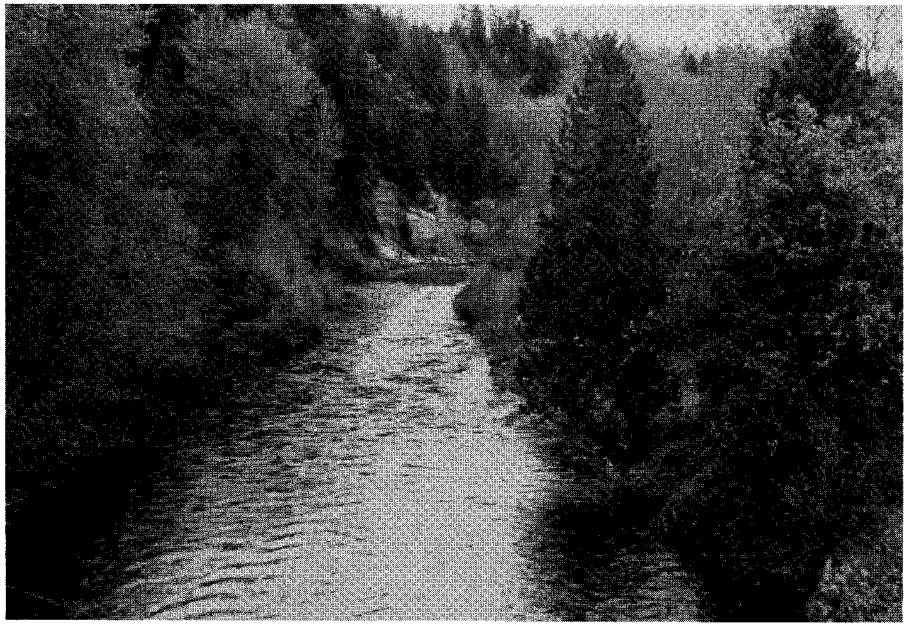
Historic and Archeologic:

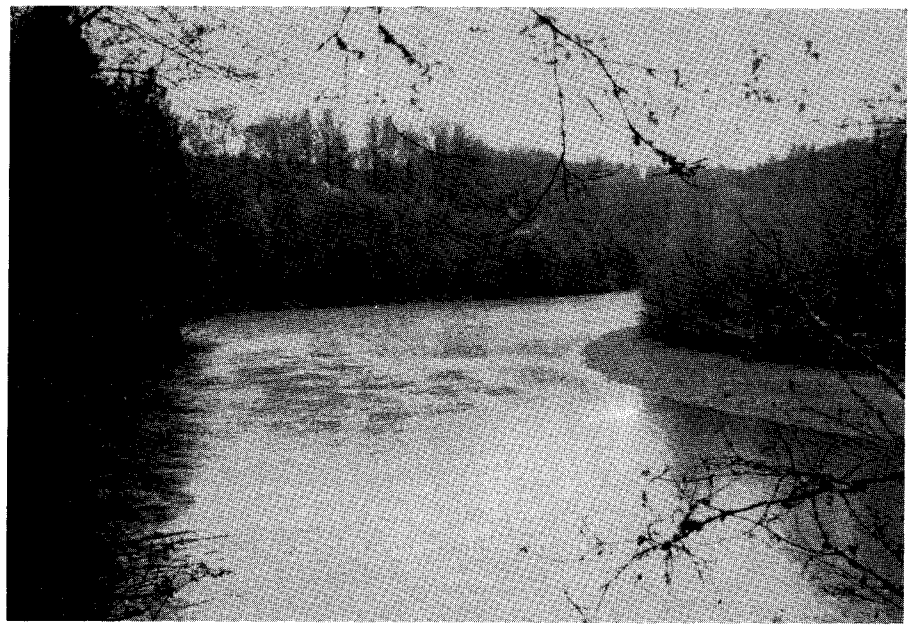
Several important historic sites on the State Register of Historic Places, including the Hartford to Monte Cristo Railroad Historic District.

Recreation:

Heavy use of several National Forest campgrounds along the South Fork due to proximity to Seattle area. Both forks are actively fished, from banks in upstream segments and boats in the lower mainstem. Minor whitewater boating activity on both forks.







WASHOUGAL

Reach:

Headwaters to confluence with the Columbia River.

Outstanding Features:

Scenic falls on upper mainstem. Heavy and varied recreational use throughout the system. High quality fish habitat. Substantial local efforts to create a greenway through towns of Washougal and Camas.

Access:

Lower segment parallelled by state road; local roads along upper segments. Abundant access to water at numerous public sites.

Use, Ownership, and Management:

Headwater areas within Gifford Pinchot National Forest. Substantial state ownership in upper reaches, with some active timber harvesting. Lower segments almost entirely in private ownership, with increasingly dense residential development approaching Washougal and Camas.

Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

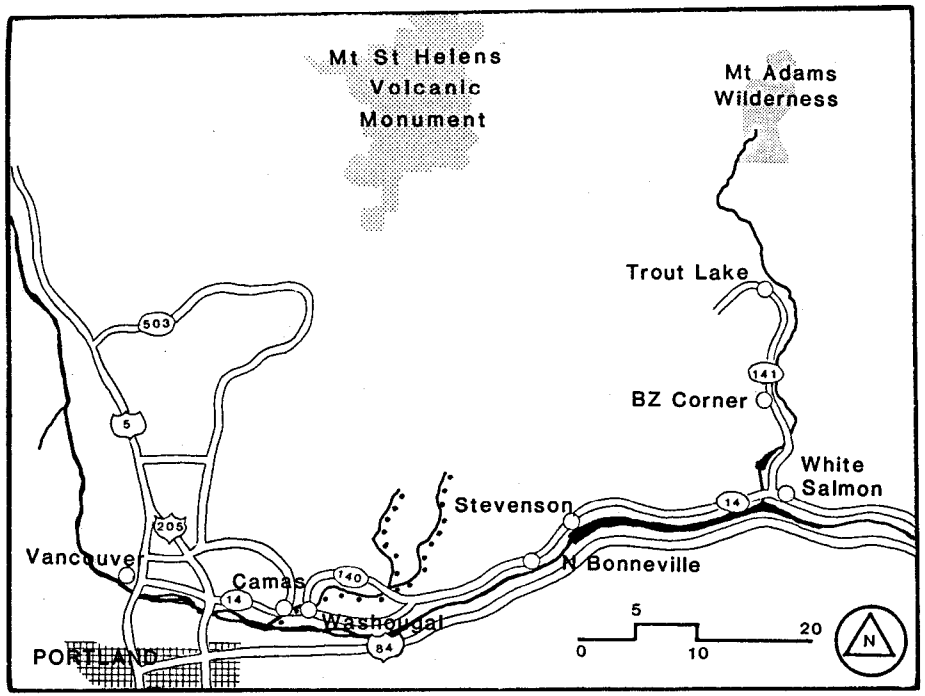
Unregulated by dams or diversions. Originates in western Cascade foothills. Numerous falls on upper mainstem. Skamania Volcanic and Rock Creek fossil beds. Meanders through broad floodplain on lower reaches.

Vegetation:

Upper reaches bordered by dense conifer forest. Riparian zone well-developed except where limited by steep topography. Natural vegetation generally disturbed in downstream urbanizing areas. Unusually well-preserved riparian vegetation through Camas.

Fish:

Good spawning and rearing habitat for summer and winter steelhead trout, chinook salmon, and coho salmon. Fishing restricted in some areas to improve salmon stocks. Two active hatcheries.

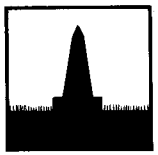


Wildlife:

Substantial disturbance in downstream reaches, with localized intact, high-quality riparian areas used by waterfowl and furbearing mammals. Excellent blacktail deer habitat on West Fork.

Scenic:

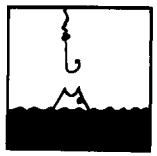
Forested mountainous landscape in upper reaches, with vivid visual features and few cultural intrusions. Urbanization of lower reaches is frequently visible from the water, but is buffered by maintenance of riparian vegetation.



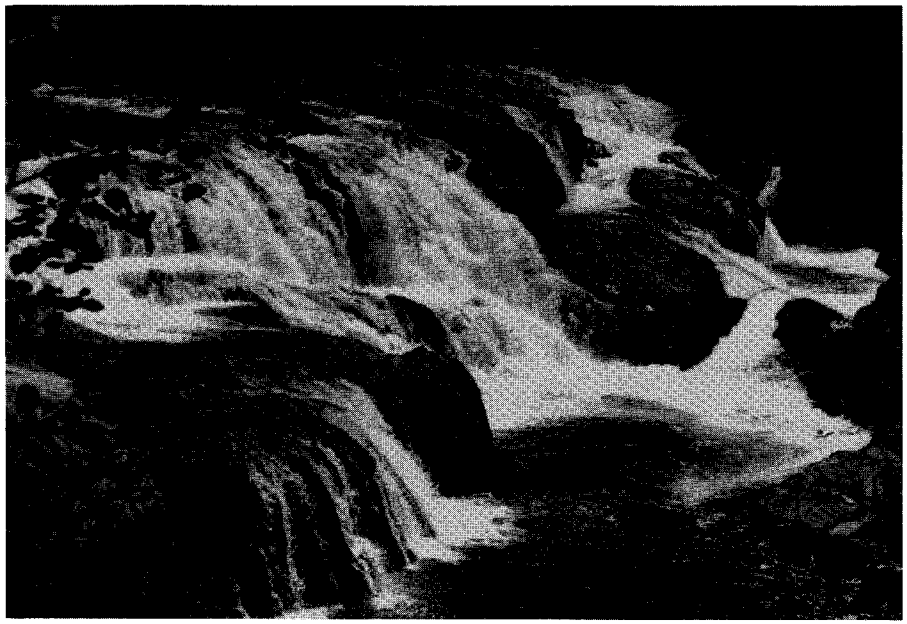
Historic and Archeologic:

Important prehistoric camps along corridor.

Recreation:



Heavily fished in lower mainstem from riverbanks. Waterfalls on upper segments attract sightseers, swimmers, and other day users. Some camping available. Some whitewater boating on segment between the Little Washougal River and Canyon Creek.



WENATCHEE

Reach:

Lake Wenatchee to confluence with the Columbia.

Outstanding Features:

Regionally reknowned for recreational use, particularily steelhead fishing and whitewater boating.

Access:

Parallelled by major road for almost entire segment. Access to water somewhat limited due to land ownership.

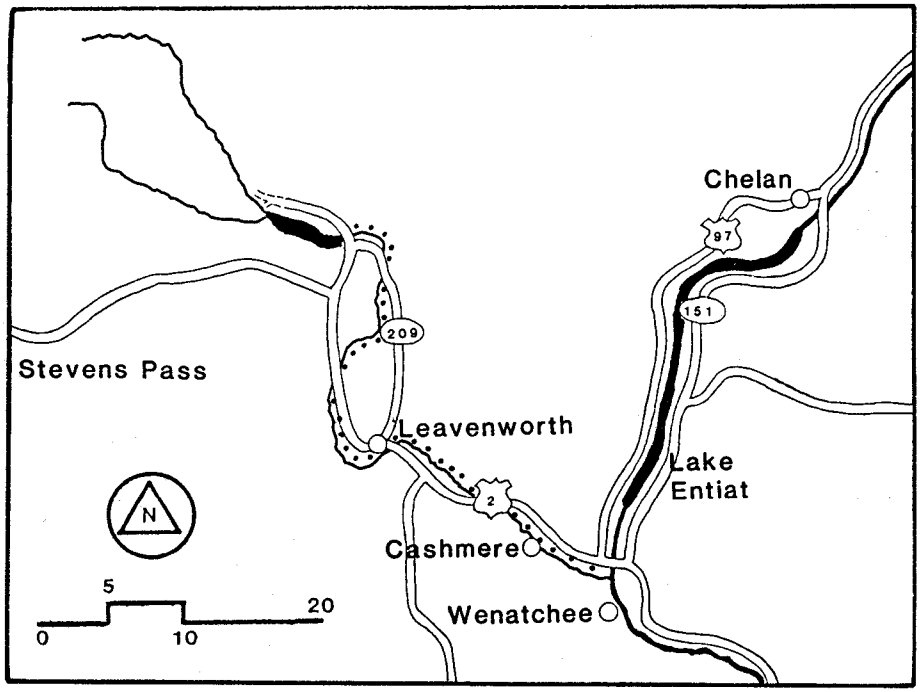
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Headwaters to town of Leavenworth within Wenatchee National Forest. Within and below Leavenworth, most land is private in dispersed residential, small community, and some industrial uses.

Resources:

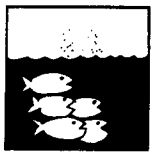
Geology and Hydrology:

Originates on east slope of Cascade Mountains. Upper segment has continuous rapids and flows within a tight canyon. Below Tumwater Canyon, rapids decrease in number and intensity and canyon widens.



Vegetation:

Discontinuous pine forest and shrub steppe vegetation disturbed by residential development and other land uses.



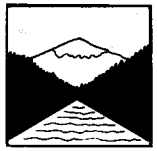
Fish:

Exceptional habitat for summer steelhead trout and sockeye salmon. Also used by summer and spring chinnok salmon and resident rainbow and cutthroat trout. Major US Fish and Wildlife Service hatchery on Icicle Creek.

Wildlife:

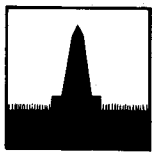
Canyons provide nesting habitat for bald eagles, osprey, and prairie and peregrine falcons. Mule

deer and some mountain goats in upper system drainages.



Scenic:

Expansive eastern Washington landscape bordered by Cascade foothills. Substantial disturbance due to residential and industrial development.

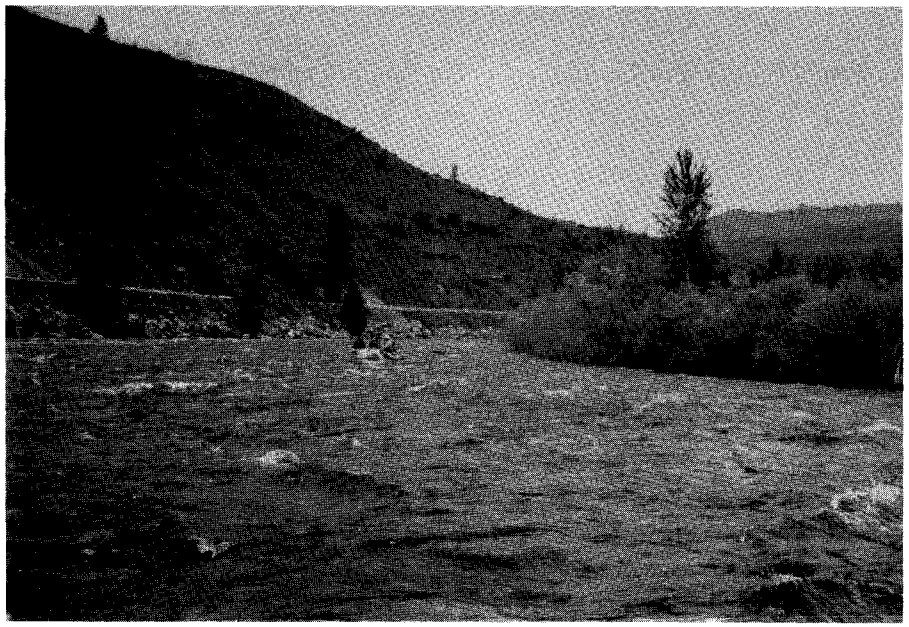


Historic and Archeologic:

Many prehistoric sites, including petroglyphs, arrowhead chipping stations, and camps in corridor.

Recreation:

Considerable camping and day use above Tumwater Canyon. Expert whitewater boating through Tumwater Canyon, with extremely popular intermediate whitewater boating run between Leavenworth and Monitor. Numerous commercial rafting operators.



WHITE SALMON

Reach:

Trout Lake Creek to Northwestern Lake.

Outstanding Features:

Exceptional whitewater run through scenic canyon. Excellent, diverse wildlife habitat.

Access:

Road parallels river, but topography and land ownership severely limit public access.

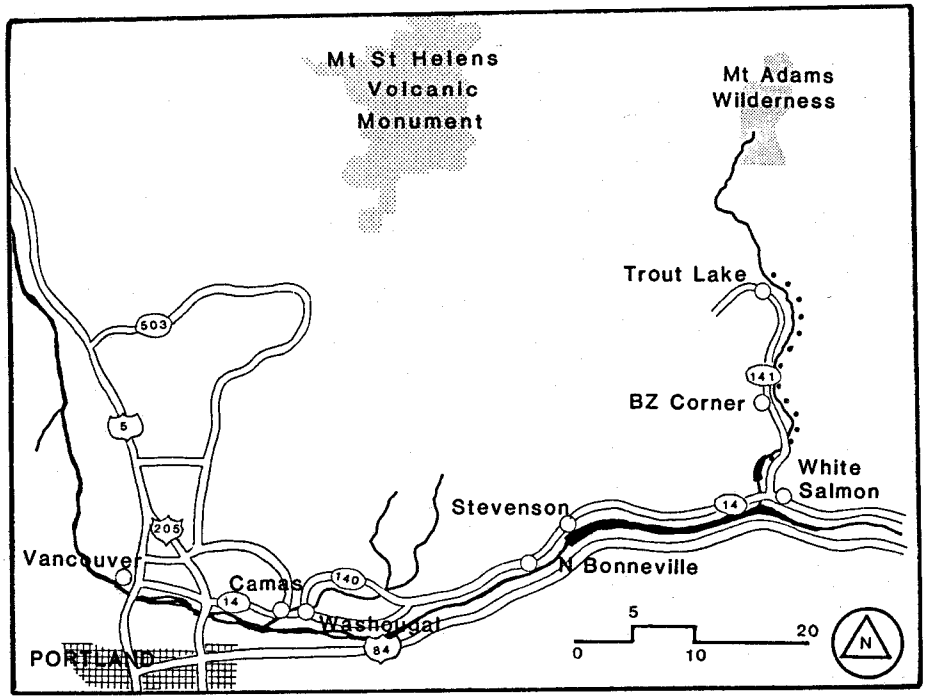
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Almost entirely in private ownership, with occasional dispersed residential use along the river. Segment between BZ Corner and Northwestern Lake recently designated into the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System; US Forest Service will begin management planning shortly. Remainder of this segment authorized for Wild and Scenic study.

Resources:

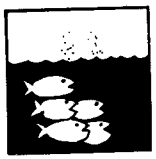
Geology and Hydrology:

Unregulated by dams and diversions. Originates on south slope of Mount Adams. Swift stream with numerous large rapids flowing through tight steeply-sloping canyon.



Vegetation:

Transitional ecological area, with a mix of west and east slope vegetation. Conifers and oaks predominate. Riparian zone limited by topography.



Fish:

Blocked to anadromous fish by downstream dam. Good habitat for rainbow and cutthroat trout, supplemented by hatchery production. Salmon may be transported around Condit Dam and reestablished in this reach in the future.

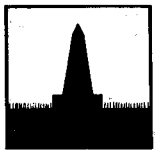
Wildlife:

Mixed old growth-second growth forest supports blacktail deer, raptors (including osprey and bald

eagles), turkeys, and spotted owls. Well-developed riparian zones used by river otters and other furbearing mammals.

Scenic:

Visual corridor completely enclosed by vegetation and topography. Few intrusions aside from occasional houses and timber harvest activities.



Historic and Archeologic:

Several prehistoric petroglyphs in corridor.

Recreation:

Expert whitewater boating run from BZ Corner to Northwestern Lake. Some commercial boating.

WYNOOCHEE

Reach:

Entire river below Wynoochee Dam.

Outstanding Features:

Side variety of recreational activities. High quality fish and wildlife habitat.

Access:

Paralleled by secondary roads for almost entire segment. Numerous public and private access points.

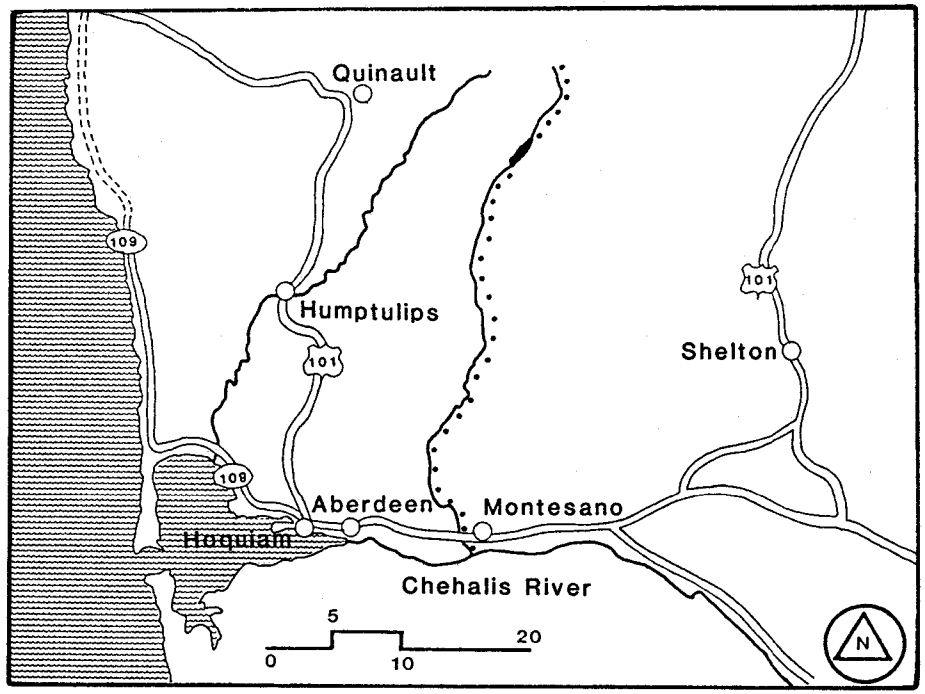
Use, Ownership, and Management:

Aside from small upper segment within Olympic National Forest, almost entirely in private ownership. Timber management dominates upper watershed, with agriculture and residential development below.

Resources:

Geology and Hydrology:

Regulated by releases from Wynoochee Dam. Originates on the southern slopes of the Olympic Mountains. Rocky alpine headwaters in upper reaches, with looped meanders amid gravel bars on lower river.



Vegetation:

Bordered by dense conifer forest and well-developed riparian zones, except where locally disturbed by development.

Fish:

Used by chinook, chum, and coho salmon and winter steelhead trout. Steelhead supplemented by hatchery production.

Wildlife:

Heavy bald eagle use and good riparian habitat on lower reaches. Extensive, high-quality deer and elk winter range, excellent riparian zones, and raptor nesting areas on upper segments.

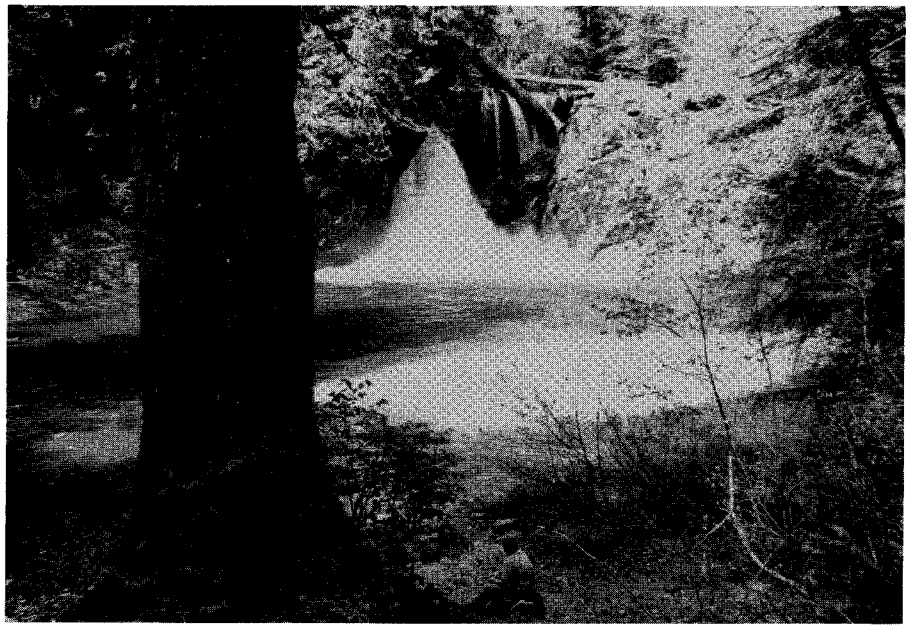
Scenic:

Visual corridor enclosed by dense bordering vegetation. Some visible evidence of timber harvest, but few other intrusions.

Historic and Archeologic:

Recreation:

Upper reaches are challenging whitewater boating runs, and are actively used for camping and day use. Lower reaches are heavily fished for steelhead.



Scenic River Management and Designation

One of the options for protecting the exceptional characteristics of the 18 rivers discussed in this report is designation and management under the Washington State Scenic Rivers Program. The following discussion describes the roles of public agencies and private landowners in managing Scenic Rivers, and the process for designating rivers into the Scenic River System.

Washington State Scenic River Management Goals

The following goals for Scenic River management have been established by the Committee of Participating Agencies:

To protect the free-flowing character of Scenic Rivers by restricting dams and inappropriate impoundments.

To protect corridor scenic values, wildlife habitat, unique ecological areas, and historic and archeologic sites on Scenic Rivers.

To provide for public access to and enjoyment of recreation on Scenic Rivers where it does not detract from protection of natural values.

To encourage management of public lands that enhances the river environment, and discourage that which detracts from the exceptional qualities of the Scenic River.

To encourage actions by riverfront landowners and other private citizens which would further protect the values of the Scenic River.

The Washington State Scenic River Program addresses these goals through two distinct programs. The first is the coordination of state and local government management activities on publicly owned lands along designated rivers. The second is the encouragement of voluntary protection actions by private citizens on Scenic Rivers.

Public Land Management

Direct state management of activities along designated Washington State Scenic Rivers is limited to publicly owned lands; private lands are specifically excluded from additional regulations under the Scenic Rivers Program. The focus of state involvement in public land management on designated rivers is to coordinate the actions of the many state and local agencies with jurisdiction over the river and the corridor, and encourage them to take actions that enhance the exceptional characteristics of the Scenic River. While federally owned lands are exempt from state management, Scenic River designation may influence federal agencies to manage their lands along designated rivers in a manner consistent with Scenic River goals.

There are two public responsibilities that begin as soon as a river is designated into the State Scenic Rivers System. The first is increased scrutiny of development projects proposed along the river. Under state and federal law, the state agencies involved in the Scenic River Program have the responsibility to review and comment on public and private proposals to harvest timber, construct dams and diversion structures, and conduct many other activities. By giving increased attention to proposals on designated rivers, program managers and reviewers from participating agencies can ensure that these activites are consistent with the management goals for State Scenic Rivers.

The second public responsibility on designated rivers is the development of a management strategy for public land along the designated river segment. Under the Scenic River Act (Chapter 79.72 RCW), the Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Committee of Participating Agencies are directed to develop management policies for publicly owned land along designated Scenic Rivers. The process for developing these policies has been designed to encourage the involvement of private citizens and local and state agencies. The process begins with the establishment of a river management committee composed of representatives from these public and private interests. The committee defines the issues and concerns to address, establishes common management goals, develops and reviews alternatives, and defines a common strategy for future public land management along the designated Scenic River. The committee meetings are open to the public, and

local citizens are encouraged to participate in the planning process through their representatives on the committee. The State Parks and Recreation Commission role is to form the committee, provide participants with information and assistance in the planning process, ensure that alternatives and strategies developed are consistent with the broader goals of the Scenic Rivers Program, and publish and distribute the strategic plan. Ultimately, the Commission may also adopt policies for public management in compliance with the plan.

The result of this management planning process is a strategy for public land management along the Scenic River that is uniquely suited to the demands of the local community.

Private Land Conservation

The second aspect of the Scenic River Program is the encouragement of voluntary private actions that are consistent with public goals and policies to protect the qualities and character of designated scenic rivers. As noted previously, the land management functions of the Program are restricted by law to publicly owned lands; no additional regulations of private land use are imposed by Scenic River designation.

Many local landowners and other private citizens along the state's great rivers have a genuine appreciation of the character of "their river" and a profound commitment to maintain its exceptional qualities. By virtue of their day-to-day involvement in riverfront communities, these local people are in an ideal position to have an immediate and lasting affect on river management and protection. The focus of the private land conservation aspect of the Scenic Rivers Program is to provide these concerned landowners and other citizens with advice and assistance on river protection.

Initially, state assistance to landowners is limited to expert advice and consultation from the Scenic River Program staff and the Committee of Participating Agencies on options for private river protection efforts. Some of the options, which range from developing a local land trust or watershed association to hosting a river clean-up day, are examined briefly in the following chapter. Ultimately, this aspect of the Scenic River Program could expand to include new technical and financial assistance initiatives such as a program to provide property tax incentives for landowners along designated rivers. Direction for the private land conservation aspect of the Scenic Rivers program will be defined by the needs of the communities along designated rivers.

Designation

Rivers are designated into the Washington State Scenic Rivers System by action of the Washington Legislature. A Legislator or group of Legislators must introduce a bill to amend the Scenic Rivers Act (Chapter 79.72 RCW) to include the segment proposed for designation. The designation bill must undergo the same review and hearing process as any bill in the Legislature. The bill may arise from the independent action of a Legislator or may be introduced at the request of the Washington Parks and Recreation Commission as a result of a formal State Scenic River study.

A State Scenic River study may be initiated by the public or by the Committee of Participating Agencies. Public nominations should be directed to the manager of the State Scenic Rivers Program at the Washington Parks and Recreation Commission. After a nomination is received, Program staff and the Committee evaluate the river for its suitability for designation. The study process includes an analysis of natural, cultural, and recreational features, a field evaluation of the river and corridor, an assessment of local and statewide public opinion on designation, and a preliminary analysis of mangement goals and needs should the river be designated. On the basis of the study, the Committee of Participating Agencies will make a recommendation to designate the river or withdraw it from consideration, which is then reviewed by the Washington Parks and Recreation Commission and forwarded for action to the State Legislature.

Conservation Actions

A State of Change

The very features that make the rivers of Washington State attractive in their natural condition - the steep alpine headwaters, the dense riparian and upland forests, the broad, fertile floodplains - make them especially useful for a variety of human activities. Since the initial settlement of this region, rivers have been hearths of Northwest civilization. Their resources have provided water for power, timber for shelter and fuel, and land for agriculture and housing. In a century of increasing population and demand for raw materials, the rivers of Washington have repeatedly been harnessed to popular demands. Some of the harnesses - the major dams on the Columbia River, the spread of Everett along the Snohomish - are permanent and irretrievable. Some, including the slow spread of suburbia and the harvest of old growth timber, are less visible but no less substantial in their capacity to change the character of the State's rivers.

The primary intent of the Washington State Scenic Rivers Program, expressed in the opening paragraphs of the Scenic Rivers Act of 1977, is to complement this continuing use and development of Washington's rivers with a policy to conserve the outstanding features of those that remain free-flowing and predominantly natural in character. The term "conserve" bears further explanation. The American College Dictionary defines the term as "to keep in a safe or sound state; preserve from loss, decay, waste, or injury; keep unimpaired." In the context of river conservation, the concept embraces not only the protection of outstanding resources, but also their appropriate use. It is this balance of protection and wise use that is the goal of the Washington State Scenic Rivers Program.

The other remarkable aspect of "conservation" as a goal is that the responsibility for conserving rivers falls to a broad spectrum of users and protectors of Washington rivers. Successful conservation will require the cooperation of timber companies, environmental groups, anglers, and other vested interests. The State has, with the creation of the State Scenic Rivers Program and the publication of this report, initiated this process, but the ultimate responsibility for achieving their protection will fall to landowners, government agencies, and economic interests throughout the State.

The following discussion focusses on activities that local, state, and national interests may take to conserve Washington rivers.

River Conservation at the Local Level

Some of the most successful river conservation programs in the country have been intitiated and accomplished at the local level. The foundation of this success is the concern that many local residents and riverfront landowners feel about "their" river. People tend to live along rivers by choice. Over time, many form a special attachment to the unique qualities of the backyard or neighborhood stream. The transition from this emotional attachment to a sense of investment and, further, to activism may be fueled by a threat - the large dam just downstream - or simply a desire to maintain things as they are; in either case, a powerful force for river conservation is born.

In previous river conservation successes, this power of local people generally manifests itself in three ways: through the independant action of riverfront landowners, through direct action by a group of private citizens, or through actions by local governments.

Landowner Actions

As with many conservation issues, the responsibility for conserving rivers falls largely on the individuals with most direct control over the resource. The actions of riverfront landowners frequently have the most visible and durable effects on rivers and river corridors. In most cases, the landowners along Washington rivers have demonstrated a concern and care for the condition of their riverfront. All too often, however, the thoughtless actions of a few -- excavating or filling riverbanks, harvesting riparian vegetation, or dumping debris into the river -- have impacts far beyond the single property where they occur.

Although many flow through private lands, the outstanding rivers of Washington are a public resource. Owning land along a river creates an opportunity to demonstrate careful stewardship of this shared and irreplaceable resource. It is an opportunity to:

Protect existing riverside vegetation, critically important ashabitat for wildlife and protection from streambank erosion.

Protect upland vegetation to maintain water quality, slow runoff, and preserve the visual quality of river corridors.

Promote appropriate construction techniques, including use of setbacks and compatible materials, in homes and other structures.

Protect and enhance habitat for fish.

Provide for permanent protection of river values by establishment of conservation easements or other covenants on riverfront property.

There are many sources of assistance available to landowners who want to pursue the above actions. Among private organizations, the Nature Conservancy and Trust for Public Land can assist in establishment of easements and quidelines for management of riverfront vegetation. The Adopt-A-Stream Foundation was recently established in Washington to help landowners and other citizens protect habitat for fish. State agencies such as the Departments of Fisheries, Wildlife, and

Ecology can provide guidance on vegetation, fisheries, and appropriate construction techniques. For further information, contact the Scenic Rivers Program staff at (206)753-1810.

Private Organization Actions

The core of a private river conservation organization is a group of people united to take action to conserve a river. The focus of these groups varies considerably. Many form in response to a single major threat such as a dam or major timber harvest. Others concentrate on long term effects of land use change along rivers. By uniting on an issue, members of such groups can increase their power and influence over decisions relating to the river, as well as divide the unavoidable mundane tasks in organizing a conservation effort.

Citizen river conservation groups fall into two categories. River clubs or associations are generally educational or political in focus, while river trusts and foundations are established to acquire property or interests in property along rivers. Because most are classified as non-profit organizations, citizen groups can attract foundation sponsorship and encourage private donations to a river conservation effort.

There are thirteen active trusts in Washington State, but few focus their efforts on rivers. The Yakima River Greenway Foundation is a good example of what a citizens trust can do to conserve a river and adjacent lands. Founded in 1980 in response to a cooperative state/local study of a segment of the Yakima River, the Foundation was established to develop a recreation/conservation greenway through the City of Yakima. Through an active fundraising campaign, a substantial network of volunteers, and excellent cooperation with state and local government agencies, the Foundation is well on its way to the creation of a 3600 acre corridor of parks, recreation trails, and fish and wildlife habitat along the Yakima River. For more

information on the Yakima River Greenway, contact the Yakima Greenway Foundation at 103 S. 3rd St., Suite 201, Yakima, WA 98901 or (509)453-8280.

The Northwest Rivers Council, formerly Friends of Whitewater, is an example of a river conservation association. Founded in 1984 for the purpose of protecting whitewater boating reaches from dams or other major development, the organization has recently expanded its attention to include protection of all free-flowing northwestern rivers, including those used for whitewater and flatwater boating, fishing, and other recreational uses along rivers. The Council is currently concentrating on review of planning and development proposals, including National Forest plans and Federal Energy Regulatory Commission hydropower permits, and intitiation of a campaign to add rivers to the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System. For more information on the Northwest Rivers Council, write to P.O. Box 88, Seattle, WA 98111 or call (206)547-7886.

Local Government Actions

The final avenue for river conservation action at the local level is through the activities of local government agencies. Local agencies have a considerable array of tools to apply to river conservation efforts, including land acquisition authority, shoreline master programs, planning and zoning powers, and health and building regulations. These tools are combined with an accessiblity and responsiveness to local concerns that may be missing at higher levels of the government.

The major deterrent to local government river conservation actions is that rivers are rarely confined to a single local jurisdiction. A river such as the Yakima may pass through many towns and counties between its headwaters and the Columbia River. Each probably has a unique approach to managing their segment of the river. The result on many rivers is a confusing and sometimes contradictory mix of policies, one that effectively limits the local capability to manage the entire river.

The key to successful local government action on larger rivers is to get local agencies working together on common goals and management policies. By presenting individual goals, negotiating common policies, and cooperating on ongoing management, local governments can develop strong river conservation strategies.

The recently-completed Nisqually River Management Plan, produced in cooperation with the Washington Department of Ecology, demonstrates one way that local agencies can have a direct influence on a river conservation project. Initiated by an act of the Legislature in 1985, the management planning process focussed on exploring the river-related goals and concerns of area citizens, organizations, and government agencies. Through a public process of negotiation and cooperation, these interests developed a locally-based plan for the ongoing management of the Nisqually River. The implementation of the plan will emphasize actions at the local government level, by those that have the most direct stake in the effects of the plan.

The three avenues of landowner, private organization, and local agency actions have been discussed as distinct options for locally-based river conservation, and all have been demonstrated to work well individually. The most successful projects, however, arise from efforts in which all three interests are merged into a single cooperative strategy. By combining the interests, enthusiasms, and energies of all of the actors at the local level, the conservation of many of Washington's best rivers is not only possible, but assured.

River Conservation at the State Level

One of the most effective provisions in the Washington Scenic Rivers Act (Chapter 79.72 RCW) reads:

> "All state government agencies...are hereby directed to pursue policies with regard to their respective activities, functions, powers, and duties...to conserve and enhance the conditions of rivers which have been included in the system..." (79.72.050)

The intent of this passage is clear: to marshal the many protection and management programs at the state level into a single, coordinated effort to maintain the exceptional qualities of a designated Washington State Scenic River. The following state programs may have prominent roles in river protection efforts.

Shorelines Management

The focus of the Shorelines Management Program, administered by the Washington Department of Ecology, is to promote proper land use development along coastal waters, lakes, and rivers. The foundation of the program is the shoreline master program, developed by each waterfront local government with the assistance of local citizens and the DOE staff. The master program establishes management policies for land use development within 200 feet of the water feature. After these policies are reviewed by DOE, the day-to-day management of the program, which includes review of most new construction along rivers, is undertaken by the local agency. For more information on this program, contact Joe Williams at DOE at (206)459-6785.

Floodplain Management

The Floodplain Management Program is also administered by the DOE. The focus of this program is to assist local governments to develop land use plans and policies to reduce hazards related to flooding. DOE offers financial and technical assistance to local agencies to develop these plans and policies. DOE also works with the Federal Emergency Management Agency on management of the National Flood Insurance Program, which provides insurance against flood-related losses. For more information, contact Jerry Louthain at DOE at (206)459-6785.

Wetlands Management and Acquisition

Technical assistance on the identification and protection of saltwater and freshwater wetlands is available from DOE. Under provisions of the Puget Sound Water Quality Management Plan, DOE and the Department of Natural Resources have recently begun a program to identify, eveluate, and acquire critical wetland areas throughout the Puget Sound basin. For more information, contact Bill Alkire at (206)459-6785.

Watershed Planning

The Puget Sound Water Quality Management Plan, through its Non-Point Program, authorizes the DOE to provide technical and financial assistance to local governments in the the Puget Sound basin to develop comprehensive watershed plans. The focus of these plans is to improve water quality in rivers and estuaries through management of non-point sources of pollution. Eleven watersheds in the Puget Sound basin have been identified for priority attention. For more information, contact Naki Stevens or Roz Glasser at the Puget Sound Water Quality Authority at (206)464-7320.

Instream Flow Management

The focus of the Instream Flow Management Program, administered by DOE, is to establish river flow levels necessary to maintain fisheries, wildlife, and other resources. Established instream flows are regarded as a water right, junior to existing rights, which may assure that critical flow levels are maintained. Instream flow standards have been established for 17 of the 62 subbasins in Washington State. For more information, contact Kenneth Slattery at DOE at (206)459-6000.

Also:

Aquatic Lands Enhancement Fund

fishery enhancement programs

401 water quality certifications (DOE)

Timber-Fish-Wildlife

LWCF and other grant programs (IAC)

River Conservation at the Federal Level

A common first impression, in considering federal conservation actions, is to think of the traditional systems of national protected areas: the national parks, wildernesses, wild and scenic rivers, wildlife refuges, and others. The National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, in particular, is an excellent tool for protection of outstanding rivers. Authorized by Congress in 1968, the System currently comprises 72 rivers in the United States, including segments of the Skagit, White Salmon, and Klickitat in Washington. Rivers in the System are permanently protected from large dams and other inappropriate types of development. For more information on the National Wild and Scenic Rivers System, contact the National Park Service, 83 S. King St., Seattle, WA 98104 or (206)442-5366.

Designation into the Wild and Scenic Rivers System or another formal federal system may be an effective tool to conserve some of Washington's rivers, but there will always be many others that depend on local and state action for their protection. How can federal agencies assist these actions?

Because of the substantial number of National Forests and National Parks in Washington, many of the State's rivers flow through a combination of private, state, and federal lands. Federal land managers commonly develop plans and administer programs for recreation and resource management on the federal portions of these rivers. There are two ways that local citizens can take advantage of these efforts to encourage river conservation.

The first is to get involved in the development of federal plans and programs to ensure that Washington's outstanding rivers get the protection they deserve. All federal planning programs include formal public involvement processes that are the best opportunity for local people to influence river plans. The Forest Service, in their current forest planning program, is distributing drafts of all Forest Management Plans to the public for review and comment. Local response can have a real impact on management of river segments within federal lands.

The second is to seek federal assistance in planning and management of segments of jointly owned rivers that are outside of federal lands. Federal land managers understand that rivers don't end at National Park or National Forest boundaries. Many have shown a willingness to work with local citizens, local agencies, and the states in developing common goals and policies for river management. There may be a great opportunity, on rivers in mixed federal and private ownership, to cooperate on the management and conservation of the entire river system.

Lack of federal land or a willing federal land manager does not mean that no federal assistance is available. Several agencies offer programs specifically developed to encourage local and state conservation efforts. Owners of private forest land are eligible for advice and assistance from the U.S. Forest Service. Farmers have traditionally received assistance in soil and water conservation techniques from the Agricultural Extension Service and the Soil Conservation Service. The National Park Service offers assistance in protection of historic and archeological resources through programs related to the National Register of Historic Places. All of these programs may be useful in a broad-based river conservation effort. For more information about these and other programs, contact the state or regional offices of the agencies.

The National Park Service's River Conservation Assistance Program, authorized in the National Wild and Scenic Rivers Act, is directed particularily at river conservation. The focus of this program is to assist state and local agencies and private organizations develop plans for conserving rivers. Cooperative projects vary in scale from small riverfront planning projects to statewide river assessments. This report is the result of cooperation between Washington State and the National Park Service through this program. For more information, contact the National Park Service, 83 S. King St., Seattle, WA 98104 or (206)442-5366.

An Afterword

The 18 rivers discussed in this report, and the many other great rivers of Washington, are an invaluable part of our heritage. Their utility - to provide food and drink, transportation, and power - has sustained and enriched countless generations of people. Just as our present rivers link mountainous headwaters to broad valleys and ultimately to the sea, rivers flow from our primeval past, into our lives in the present, and beyond us into the future.

We were not the first to live along these rivers; nor will we be the last. We owe a debt of gratitude to our predecessors, who have left us rivers of great character and quality. We repay that debt by passing these rivers on to our successors in an equal or better state.

This - the care of the state's fine rivers - is a great responsibility. It is a shared responsibility. Just as we all take advantage of the bounty of these rivers, we must share in the duties of caring for, managing, and maintaining them.

In his treatise The Tragedy of the Commons, author Garrett Hardin discussed the frequent fate of commonly-held resources: belonging to everyone, they are cared-for by no one. Isolated and incremental acts of carelessness or selfishness, of little significance individually, begin to compromise the quality and integrity of the commons. Without collective action by the owners of the commons, the character of these areas is lost.

The great rivers of Washington are our commons. We do not need to look far to see evidence of yesterday's tragedies, of once-great rivers, streams, and estuaries. They are more frequently the result of many isolated and incremental events,

undertaken in innocence of their consequences, than the single deliberate action. They are constant reminders of the need for change in the way we treat our heritage of rivers.

The tragedy of the commons is neither inevitable or irreversible. Protection of the commons requires only that we, as a community, take responsibility for them. The protection of the state's great rivers is not someone else's job. It does not belong to a few local organizations or the handful of government agencies with river-related programs. It is a job that belongs to all of the state's people. Together, we can - we must - protect the great rivers of Washington State.

Scenic Evaluation Worksheet

River Name _____

Reach Description _____

Evaluator Name _____ Date _____

Evaluation Perspective (road, water, trail) _____

Natural Features

1) Valley Landform
   - _____ Flat (broad floodplain)
   - _____ Undulating (broad valley)
   - _____ Hilly (narrow valley)
   - _____ Mountainous (canyon, steep valley)

2) River Alignment and Channel
   - _____ Straight
   - _____ Sinuous
   - _____ Meandering
   - _____ Fixed
   - _____ Braided

3) Flow Character
   - _____ Continuous rapids, cascades
   - _____ Rapids, large riffled
   - _____ Swift water, some riffles
   - _____ Flatwater
   - _____ Class (if known)

4) Water Clarity
   - _____ Turbid
   - _____ Cloudy
   - _____ Clear

5) Corridor Vegetation
   - _____ Dense conifer (spruce/fir/hemlock)
   - _____ Other conifer (pine/larch)
   - _____ Deciduous (alder/ash/maple)
   - _____ Shrub and grassland
   - _____ Other _____

6) Riparian Zone
   - _____ Lush
   - _____ Sparse
   - _____ Nonexistent
   - _____ Continuous
   - _____ Discontinuous

7) Length of Views
   - _____ Enclosed, foreground visible only
   - _____ Somewhat enclosed, foreground-middleground visible
   - _____ Expansive, foreground-middleground-background visible

8) Evidence of Wildlife

_____ Wildlife sighted: _____

_____ No sightings, abundant evidence: _____

_____ Little or no evidence

9) Unusual Landscape Features

_____ Waterfalls or other flow features: _____

_____ Gorges, islands, cliffs or other geologic features: _____

_____

_____ Other features (vegetation, wildlife) _____

_____

Cultural Features

10) Corridor Land Uses (% of visible land in land use)

_____% Agricultural (crops and livestock)

_____% Dispersed residential

_____% Concentrated residential/commercial/industrial

_____% Active forestry (visible logging)

_____% No visible land uses

11) Special Cultural Features

_____ Historic sites: _____

_____ Archaeological sites: _____

_____ Other features: _____

12) Intrusions

_____ Highways, road cuts

_____ Bridges

_____ Dams, diversion

_____ Rip rap

_____ Dikes

_____ Other _____

_____ Large signs, billboards

_____ Clearcuts

_____ Mining

_____ Powerlines

13) Quality of Natural Features (circle number that best applies)

Outstanding		Moderate		Limited
1	2	3	4	5

14) List questions that influenced this evaluation: _____

_____

15) Quality of Cultural Features (circle the number that best applies)

Enhancing		Neutral		Detracting
1	2	3	4	5

16) List questions that influenced this evaluation: _____

_____

17) Likely Management Classification: _____

APPENDIX A

SCENIC RIVERS PROGRAM
RIVERS UNDER CONSIDERATION

Black
Bogachiel
Carbon
Cedar
Chiwawa
Cispus
Clearwater
Columbia (Hanford Reach)
Colville
Cowlitz
Dickey
Dosewallips
Duckabush
Dungeness
Elochamen
Elwah
Entiat
Grande Ronde
Grays
Graywolf
Green
Hamma Hamma
Hoh
Humptulips
Kalama
Kettle
Klickitat
Lewis
Little Spokane
Little White Salmon
Methow
Naches System-
Rattlesnake
Naselle
Nisqually
Nooksack
North Fork Toutle
North
Okanogan
Palouse
Rocky Ford Creek
Satsop
Similkameen
Skagit
Skokomish
Skykomish
Snoqualmie
Soleduck
Stillaguamish
Tilton
Touchet
Tuchannon
Washougal
Wenatchee
White
White
White Salmon
Wind
Wiskah
Wynoochee
Yakima