Methow River Basin Projects

**MVID-West Canal**
Move MVID West Canal diversion off the Twisp River to a diversion on Methow River (or combination of diversion and well field or a combination of wells) and pipe a majority of the West Canal.

Improves Twisp River instream flows by 11 cfs in the lower 3.5 river miles & eliminates historic pushup dam.

**Chewuch Canal**
Additional canal piping, will eliminate diversion during low flow periods.

Improves instream flows by 9.5 cfs in lower 7 miles Chewuch River

Adds irrigation reliability.

Provides recreation opportunities.

**Twisp Water Right**
Issue a new water right (50-300 ac-ft) to Town of Twisp that is offset by consumptive use from an irrigation water right.

Provides public reliability and conservation-minded development within town boundaries and eliminates exempt well promulgation.

**Barkley Diversion**
Reconnects Bear Creek to the Methow River, eliminates wing dam, provides approx 20 cfs of instream flow benefit in a section of Methow River, improves water quality, lowers fish mortality.

**Davis Lake Storage**
Provides additional storage capacity in the Methow Basin.

Most feasible storage project out of three proposed.

**Water Acquisition**
Acquisition of 79 (52.3 ac-ft consumptive) of water at the confluence of Gold Creek and the Methow River.

**Irrigation Efficiencies**
Work with Conservation Commission to identify and fund irrigation efficiency projects.

Basin-wide

**Policy Questions**

**Interruptible Rights**
Currently 67 interruptible water rights on the Methow River

Policy Consideration – Is there an opportunity to make some/all of these water rights whole?

**Reserve Accounting**
Each of the seven reaches in the basin has a 2 cfs reserve quantity, totaling 14 cfs.

Policy Consideration - Can these reach reserve quantities move up/down stream?

**General Questions**

Is alternative or out-of-kind mitigation an option in the Basin?

Does the investment of 4 instream flow projects (MVID West, Chewuch, Barkley and IEGP) provide sufficient instream flow benefits that outweigh the seasonal instream impacts of a new, reliable, municipal appropriation for Twisp that is water budget neutral on the Columbia River to meet the Overriding Consideration of the Public Interest (OCPI) criteria in WAC 173-548-020(5) and WAC 173-563-080?