

COMMISSIONER'S ORDER

NUMBER 202418

STATE OF WASHINGTON

DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

Hilary S. Franz, Commissioner of Public Lands

COMMISSIONER'S ORDER ON AN EXPANSION OF THE METHOW RAPIDS NATURAL AREA PRESERVE

Whereas, the Washington State Legislature, through Revised Code of Washington Chapter 79.70, the Natural Area Preserves Act, found that there is a need by the people of Washington for certain areas of the state to be conserved for the benefit of present and future generations; such areas are worthy of conservation for their outstanding ecological and scenic values; protection within an enduring system of natural areas is necessary for plants and animals in their natural ecological systems; such areas are valuable for purposes of scientific research and teaching, as rare species habitat, and as places of natural historic interest and living museums of the original heritage of the state, and

Whereas, pursuant to RCW 79.70.030, the Washington State Department of Natural Resources is authorized to establish the criteria for selection, acquisition, management, protection and use of natural areas, and acquire by fee or any lesser right or interest in real property lands that shall be held and managed as natural areas, and

Whereas, pursuant to RCW 79.70.080(1)(f), the Washington State Natural Heritage Advisory Council reviewed and recommended the expansion and proposed boundary of Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve during their May 21, 2004, meeting, and

Whereas, the Department held a public hearing as required by RCW 79.70.100 on July 19, 2005, in Okanogan County, Washington, to receive public comment on the expansion and boundary designation of Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve, and

Whereas, the Department is coordinating with landowners on the potential acquisition of their lands into the natural area preserve and finds a need for minor technical changes to the Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve boundary description, which were reviewed on April 30, 2024, with the Okanogan County Board of Commissioners and for which the commissioners offered their support, and

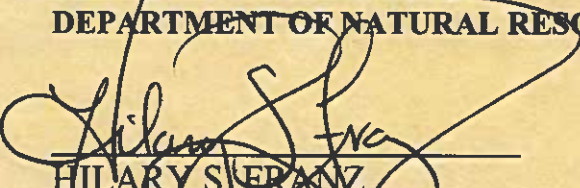
Whereas, the Department has determined that the area described below should be designated as a natural area preserve and, per RCW 79.70.020(2), includes areas that have retained their natural character or are important in preserving rare or vanishing flora, fauna, geological, natural historical or similar features of scientific or educational value.

It is THEREFORE ORDERED AND DIRECTED that Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve be expanded to include approximately 43.61 additional acres in portions of Section 12 in Township 29 North, Range 23 East and Section 18 in Township 29 North, Range 24 East, and reduced by 28 acres in portions of Sections 1 and 12 in Township 29 North, Range 23 East, for a new total boundary acreage of approximately 800.2 in portions of Sections 1, 12 and 13 in Township 29 North, Range 23 East and Sections 7 and 18 in Township 29 North, Range 24 East in Okanogan County, Washington, as indicated on the attached boundary map dated February 2024.

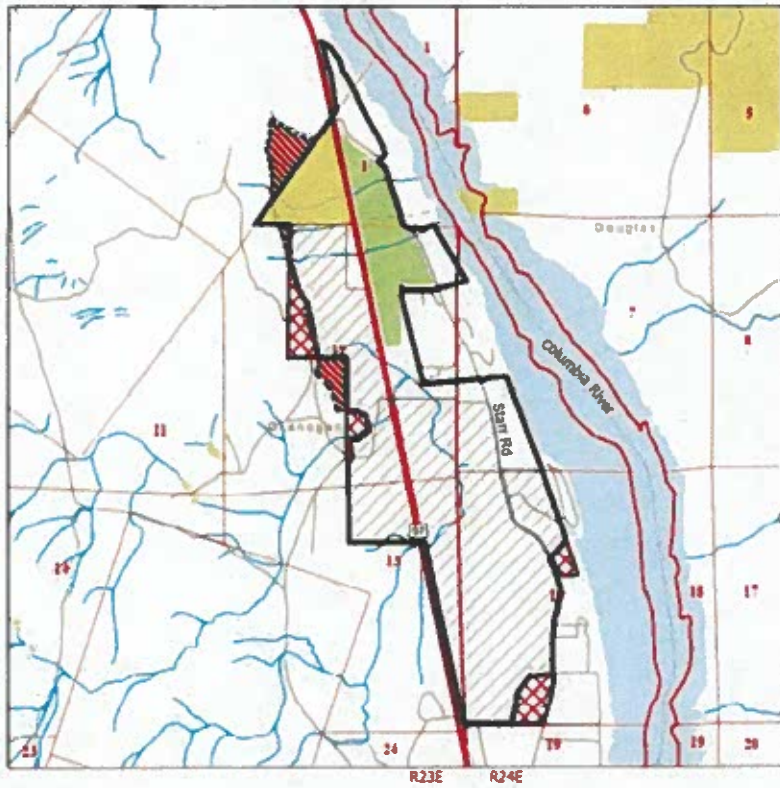
Dated this 15th day of July, 2024.



STATE OF WASHINGTON
DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES


HILARY S. FRANZ
Commissioner of Public Lands

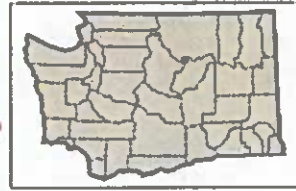
**Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve
Proposed Boundary Proposal**



Okanogan Ecoregion

MAP LEGEND

- Proposed Boundary Expansion
- Proposed Boundary Reduction
- NAP Approved Boundary
- Proposed Expansion Parcel
- Natural Area Preserve
- US Bureau of Land Management



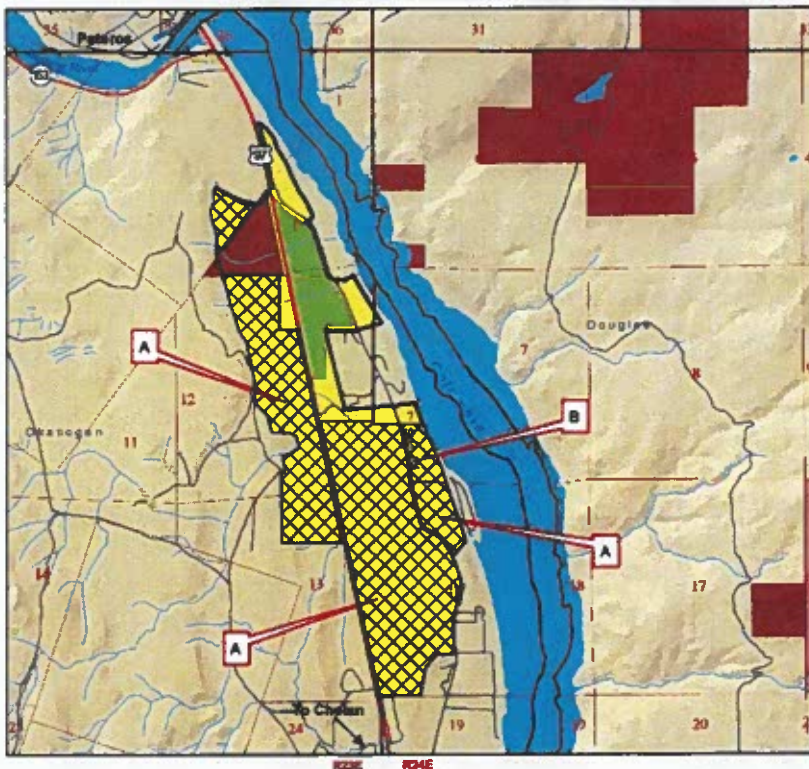
Disclaimer: Estimates were used during the compilation of this map to ensure accuracy. However, due to changes in ownership and the need to rely on outside information, the Department of Natural Resources cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions, and, further, there are no warranties which accompany this material.

Conservation Lands - Melrose - February 2024



**WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF
NATURAL
RESOURCES**
MILARY S. FRANZ
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

**Methow Rapids Natural Area Preserve
Methow Rapids NAP Natural Area 2020 / #20-1423A**



Okanogan Ecoregion

MAP LEGEND

- NAP Boundary
- Natural Area Preserve
- Lands Eligible for Inclusion
- Granted Trust Lands
- US Bureau of Land Management
- Priority Parcels for Acquisition



Disclaimer: Estimates were used during the compilation of this map to ensure accuracy. However, due to changes in ownership and the need to rely on outside information, the Department of Natural Resources cannot accept responsibility for errors or omissions, and, further, there are no warranties which accompany this material.

Conservation Lands - Melrose - May 2020



**WASHINGTON STATE DEPT OF
NATURAL
RESOURCES**
MILARY S. FRANZ
COMMISSIONER OF PUBLIC LANDS

For Grant Presentation Purposes Only