
Chamokane Creek

Water Use Settlement Agreement

After decades of conflict over water use along Chamokane Creek, the Spokane Tribe, the United States and Washington Department of Ecology reached an innovative agreement. The agreement centers on a mitigation program that will improve streamflows for fish, allow existing domestic water uses to continue, and provide water for future domestic needs in Stevens County.

Under terms of the agreement, which is now allowed by the court to proceed, Ecology will provide mitigation to offset the impacts of existing and future domestic water use. A program will be established to improve stream flows and temperatures, allowing fish to migrate upstream. The program will be largely funded through Ecology, with support from the Spokane Tribe and Bureau of Indian Affairs.

Who this applies to

For most landowners in the basin, you will not need to do anything different regarding your present use of surface or groundwater. The mitigation program will cover your very small impact to the flow in Chamokane Creek.

Washington state law allows domestic water users to use water for indoor use, a half acre or less of non-commercial lawn and garden, and stockwater. The mitigation program will protect these uses. If individual properties are exceeding the limits contained in the agreement, that excess use is not protected and could be subject to regulation in court.

Open House

Ecology is hosting an open house to answer questions from the community. Please join us.

Where: Mary Walker High School Auditorium
500 N 4th St., Springdale, WA 99173

Date: October 17, 2019

Time: 6 – 8 p.m.

You can also learn more on our website: <https://ecology.wa.gov/chamokane>



Chamokane Creek on a sunny day.

Contact information

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ADA Accommodations

To request ADA accommodation, call Ecology at 360-407-6831 or visit <https://ecology.wa.gov/accessibility>. People with impaired hearing may call Washington Relay Service at 711. People with speech disability may call TTY at 877-833-6341.