

THE 4TH ANNUAL
State of Our
LAKE
2025

SEPTEMBER 17

City of Moses Lake Council Chambers
6:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Photo by Britton Baker, CBCD



Clean lake, healthy community, strong economy.

Together improving, protecting, and preserving the water quality in Moses Lake and our greater watershed for present and future generations.

About Us

The Moses Lake Watershed Council (MLWC) was formed in **2018** and has grown to include a diverse representation of affected stakeholders who share an interest in protecting and improving the water quality of Moses Lake and the greater watershed.



Our Mission

MLWC is dedicated to identifying and facilitating community-led efforts to improve, protect, and preserve water quality in Moses Lake and the greater watershed for present and future generations.



Photo by Britton Baker, CBCD

Members & Partners

The MLWC is only as strong as its participation and contributions made by its members and partners. MLWC's members are entities that have decision-making power, whereas MLWC partners participate in more of information-sharing and advisory roles. Both members and partners regularly participate and contribute to MLWC-related activities.



A Community Effort

MLWC meets on the third Tuesday of every month at 10:00 am at the Columbia Basin Conservation District Office located at 903 W. 3rd Ave in Moses Lake.



Columbia Basin
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington



Tour
GRANT COUNTY
WASHINGTON



Washington Department of
FISH & WILDLIFE

Function & Responsibilities

MLWC is a locally led collaborative, chaired by CBCD, that brings together voluntary partners to share information, strengthen partnerships, and leverage resources in support of its mission.



Education & Outreach

Programs

- Trout in the Classroom
- Pop-Up Education Program

Events

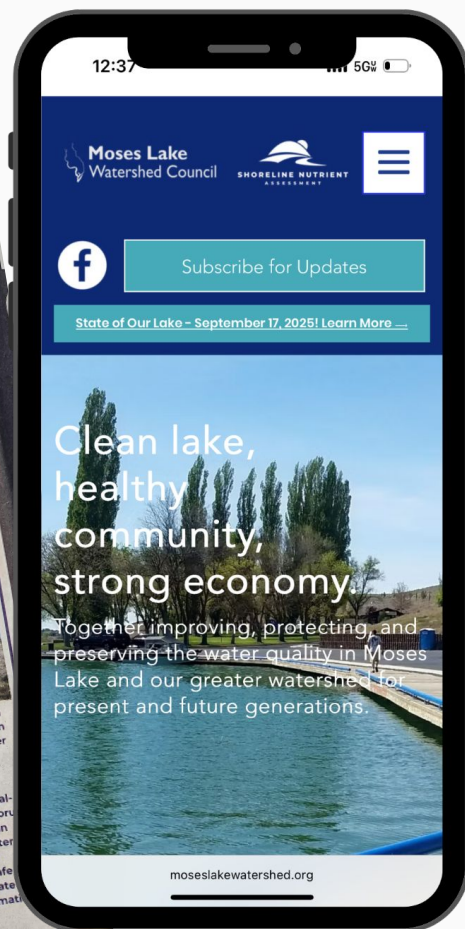
- Eco-Gardening Symposium
- Crab Creek Summit
- Grant County Fair
- National Night Out
- Othello Sandhill Crane Festival
- Columbia Basin Home & Garden Show



Public Outreach

- Lake Lowdown
- Radio Ads
- Website
- Newsletter
- Facebook

Scan the QR code to follow us on Facebook!



Moses Lake Water Quality Survey

We want to hear from you!

Scan the QR code or visit
<https://bit.ly/moseslakecommunityusesurvey> to
participate in the survey.



*A Baseline Assessment of the Economic and
Social Values of Moses Lake, Washington*



Authors

Heather Sawyer, PhD
Kyle Mullen, MA





City of Moses Lake Stormwater Division





City of Moses Lake

Sweeping Statistics

Spring Sweeping 152.7 Tons

Summer Sweeping 108.6 Tons

So far this year we have removed over **half a million pounds** of debris from the roadway. We estimate by end of 2025 we will have removed over **1 million pounds**

City Streets are swept between 4 and 5 times each year





City of Moses Lake

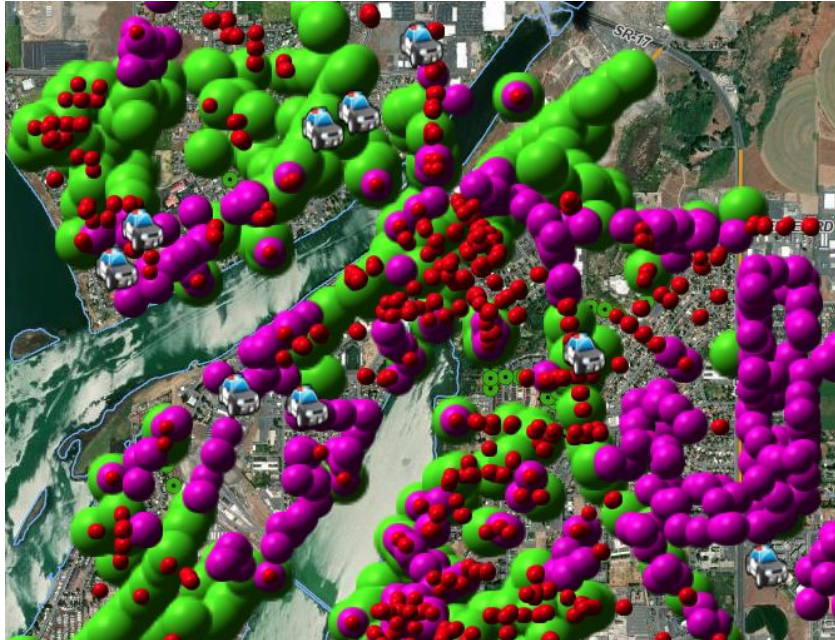
System Statistics

- ★ 33% of our Inlet Structures inspected & cleaned
- ★ 4.4 Miles of Underground Pipe inspected & cleaned
- ★ 31% of Infiltration Systems inspected & cleaned
- ★ 100% Discharge Points inspected



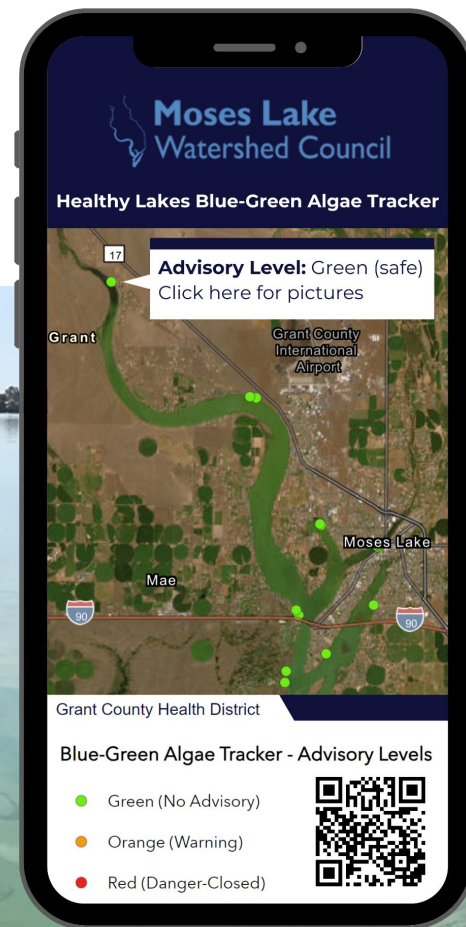
City of Moses Lake

Stormwater Education and Outreach





GRANT COUNTY HEALTH DISTRICT



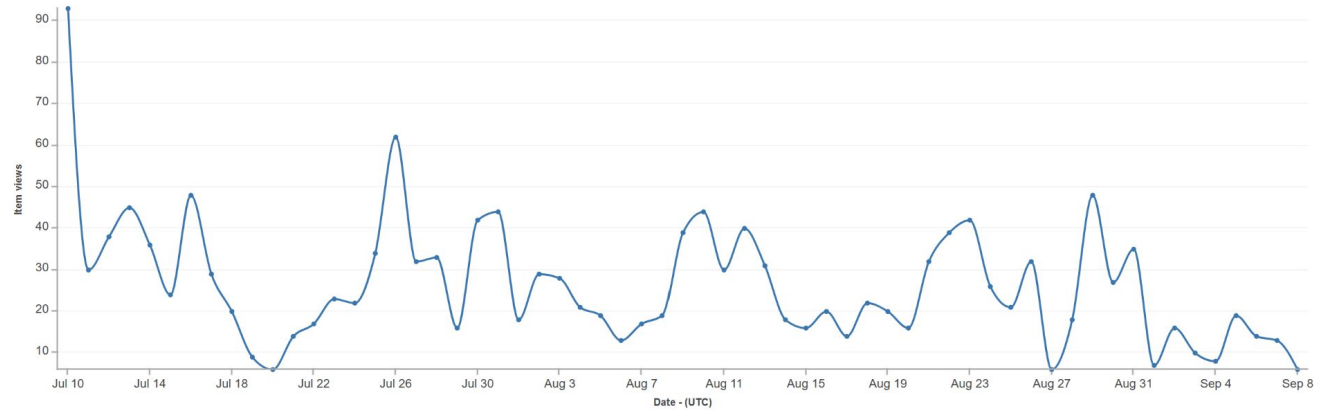
Usage details for the period
Jul 10, 2025 - Sep 8, 2025

Past 60 days

Item views
1,610

Average item views per day
26.83

Usage time series over the past 60 days







GRANT COUNTY TOURISM

Washington State

Nature's Playground



GRANT COUNTY TOURISM

Washington State

Nature's Playground

Grant County Tourism



Moses Lake Watershed Council

Clean lake,
Healthy community,
Strong economy.

Last Year

Moses Lake's water quality was better than it has been in years.

With Your Help

It can look great again this year.

Have you driven over the Alder St. bridge and noticed more plants in the water?

These are beneficial plants that provide critical nesting habitat for sensitive species and can uptake phosphorus, which is a natural filter that can help prevent blue-green algae.

In portions of the lake where we swim and boat, the water clarity is improving which means more plants are likely to grow there in the future.

A huge thank you to Moses Lake Irrigation and Rehabilitation District (MLIRD) for helping manage our in-lake plant species and areas we enjoy!

For more information on MLIRD's aquatic lake treatments, visit www.mlird.org

Scan the QR code to visit the MLIRD website.

GRANTCOUNTY.COM

Let's keep it going!

Here's how you can help...

Lawn and Garden Care

- Use phosphorus-free fertilizer
- Try alternative methods like composting, companion planting, mulching, and hand weeding
- Collect grass clippings after mowing
- Clean up after pets

Septic Maintenance

- Get your system inspected regularly (once every 1-3 years)
- Know what is safe to flush or pour down your drain
- Repair or replace your system if it fails or is otherwise inadequate

Sign up for a SNA

The Shoreline Nutrient Assessment (SNA) was created in 2024 to reduce the amount of nutrients going into Moses Lake.

The program is run by the Columbia Basin Conservation District (CBCD) who work with landowners to identify potential runoff areas where nutrients are leaching into the lake.

Ready to get started?

Contact:
Ronnie Sawyer | (509) 760-1845
ronnie-sawyer@columbiabasin.org
Kaley Wisher | (509) 771-4986
kaley-wisher@columbiabasin.org

The Moses Lake Watershed Council (MLWC) is dedicated to identifying and facilitating community-led efforts to improve, protect, and preserve water quality in Moses Lake and the greater watershed for present and future generations.

Formed in 2018 as an ad hoc committee, the MLWC has grown to include a diverse representation of affected stakeholders within the watershed, including:
City of Moses Lake
Moses Lake Irrigation & Rehabilitation District
Columbia Basin Conservation District
Grant County Health District
Grant County Tourism
WA Department of Ecology

Grant County Healthy Lakes Blue-Green Algae Tracker

The Healthy Lakes Blue-Green Algae Tracker is an online mapping tool that provides the public with information regarding blue-green algae conditions on Moses Lake.

Weekly observations of water quality including photos are made at popular public access points and posted along with current advisories.



Scan the QR Code for current info on the lake water quality or visit moseslakewatershed.org/tracker to learn more.



Scan the QR code to visit the MLWC website.

WA Dept. of Fish & Wildlife
Bureau of Reclamation
Intertribal Citizens

For more information contact the Columbia Basin Conservation District at (509) 765-9618 or visit www.moseslakewatershed.org

GRANT COUNTY TOURISM GUIDE 2025 25



Moses Lake Watershed Council

MOSESLAKEWATERSHED.ORG

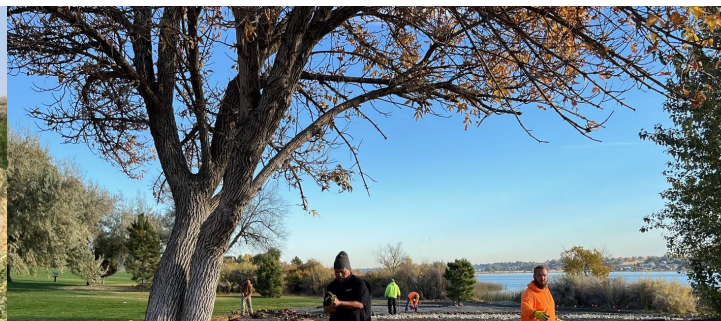
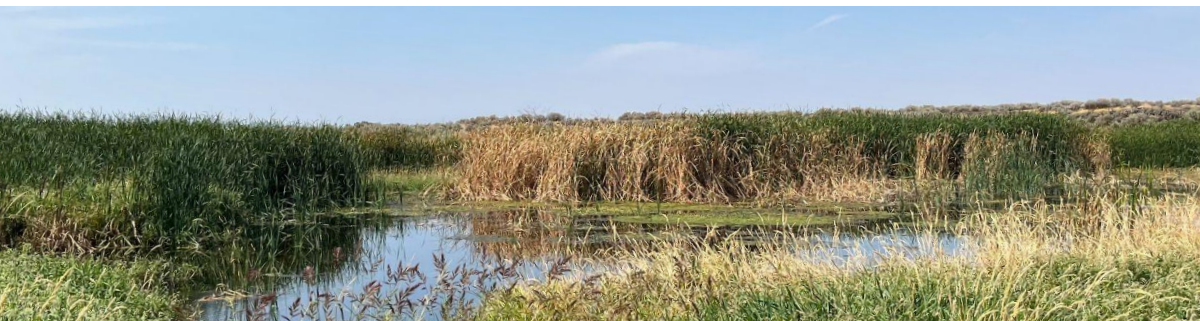


Columbia Basin
CONSERVATION DISTRICT



Columbia Basin
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

Columbia Basin Conservation District



HONORING THE MOSES-COLUMBIA PEOPLE

(Sinkayuse / ʔkʷáxčəṇəxw)

This park lies within the Plateau culture region, a broad territory shaped by the Columbia, Fraser, and Snake Rivers. Bordered by the Cascade Mountains to the west and the Rockies to the east, this region has long been home to Indigenous peoples with deep cultural ties to the land (Walker 1988).

The ʔkʷáxčəṇəxw, known today as the Moses-Columbia people, are a part of the Middle Columbia River Salishan group. After 1886, a majority of the Moses-Columbia moved to the Colville Indian Reservation, where they reside today as one of twelve constituent members of the Confederated Tribes of the Colville Reservation (CTCR 2022).

We honor the enduring connection of the Moses-Columbia people to this land and recognize their role in shaping its past, present, and future.



Native Plants of the Columbia Basin

Indigenous communities have long relied on native plants for food, medicine, tools, shelter, and ceremony. Each plant served a purpose. Some examples include: roots were gathered for nourishment, leaves brewed for healing teas, and fibers woven into baskets. Knowledge of these plants was passed down through generations, reflecting a deep respect for the land and its resources.



Scarlet Gilia
Ipomopsis aggregata

This plant is known to attract hummingbirds! Indigenous peoples treated this plant as good luck and used it for medicinal purposes.



Upland Larkspur
Delphinium nuttallianum

This plant grows best in moist, rocky soil. Traditionally, its flowers were used by Indigenous peoples to create a natural blue dye.



Coyote Mint
Monardella odoratissima

Coyote mint grows low and spreads, but can become bushier when trimmed. Indigenous peoples traditionally used this plant as a tea, a medicine, and to remove scent from fishing gear.



Columbia Prickly Pear
Opuntia columbiana

This cactus thrives in loose, coarse sandy soils and is often found in open shrubsteppe environments. Traditionally, Indigenous peoples ate the prickly pear and used the spines to make fishing gear.

DISCLAIMER: The use of native plants for food and/or medicinal purposes by Indigenous peoples is provided for informational purposes only. Many native plants can be toxic. The Columbia Basin Conservation District and the Columbia Basin Chapter of the Washington Native Plant Society do not advocate or assume responsibility for the use of native plants as food or medicine.

Lower Peninsula Park Demonstration Garden



SIGN UP FOR A **FREE** SHORELINE NUTRIENT ASSESSMENT



Experts from the Columbia Basin Conservation District will schedule an hour-long visit with you at your lakefront property to answer any questions you may have about ways you can reduce your phosphorus contributions to our lake.

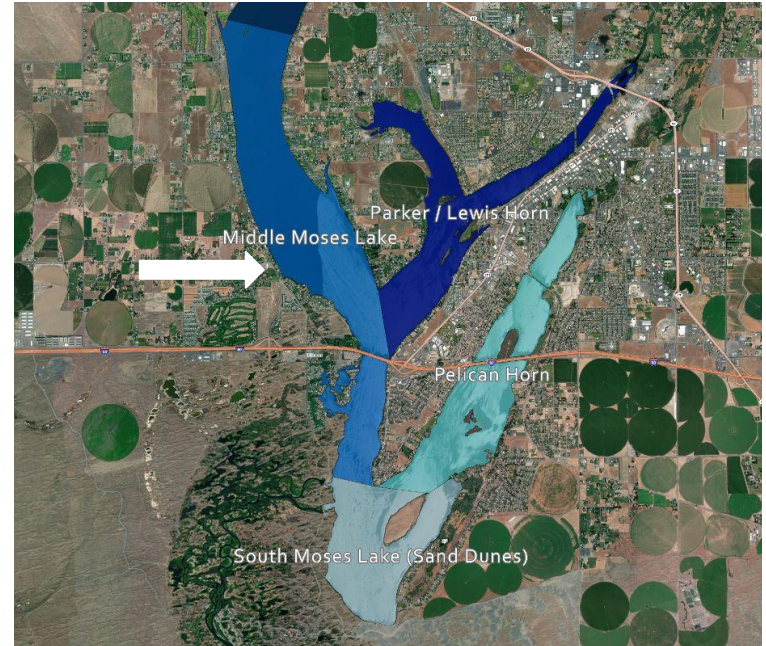
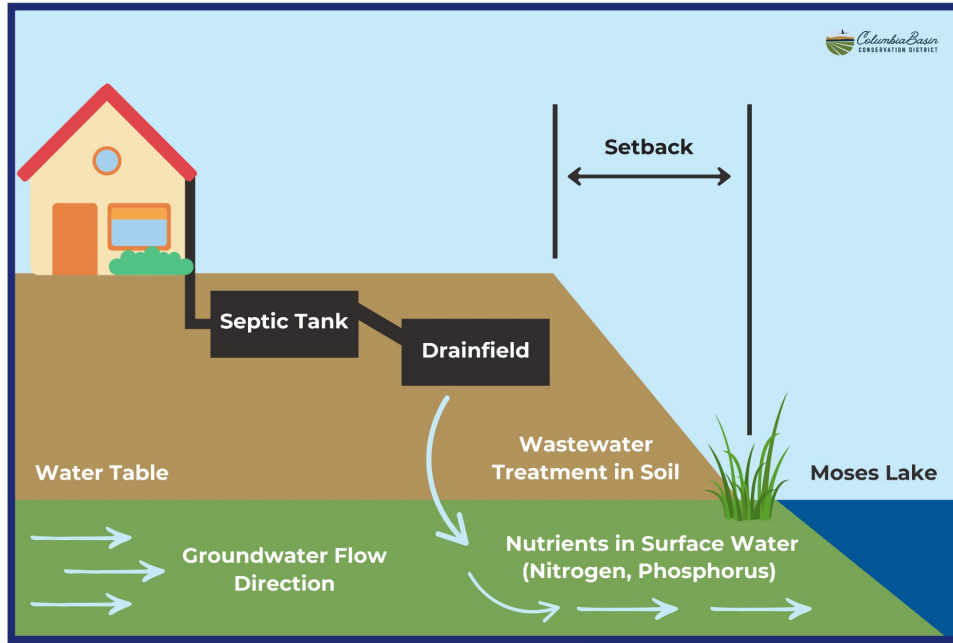


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Partially funded by
The Washington State
Department of Ecology



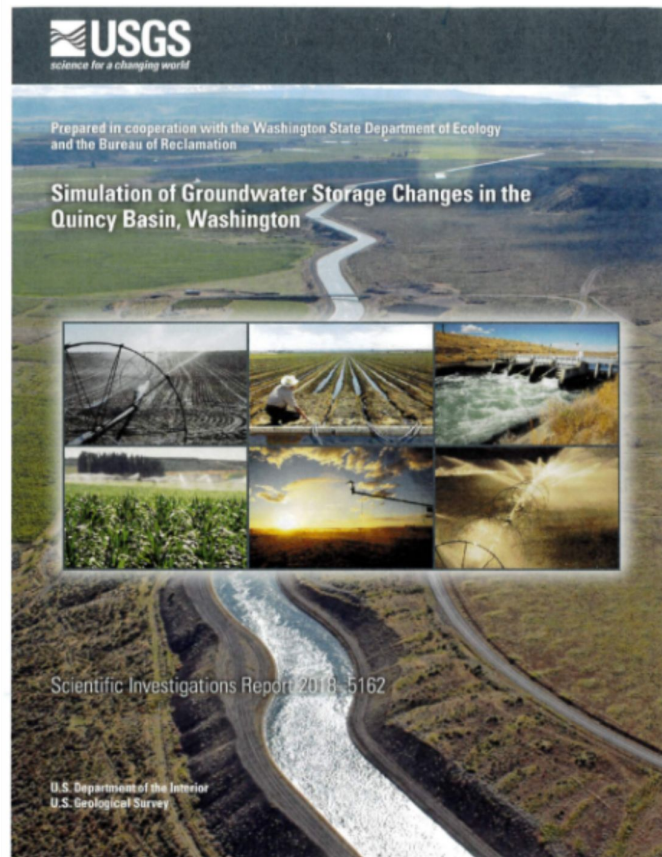
Westshore Drive Septic to Sewer Conversion Project





Future Collaborations

Update to the Simulation of
Groundwater Storage Changes in
the Quincy Basin, Washington.





MOSES LAKE IRRIGATION & REHABILITATION DISTRICT

~ Serving Moses Lake since 1928 ~



Water Quality



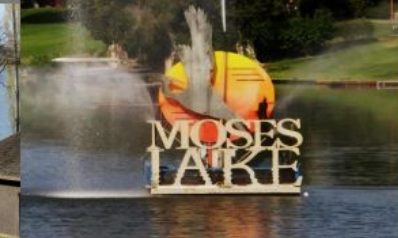
Irrigation



Weed Harvesting



Recreation



Dredging



Weed Treatments

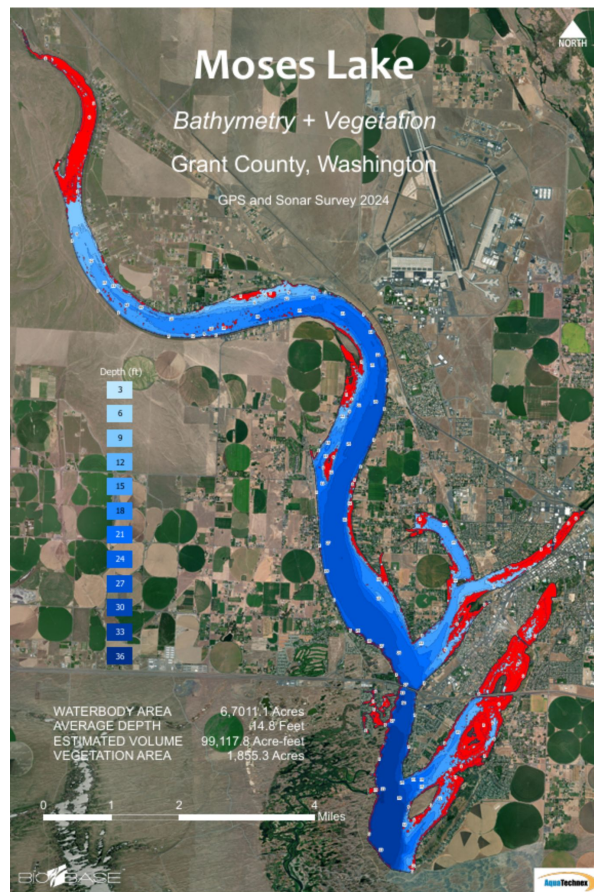
MLIRD works hard each day to improve lake water quality as we build a stronger Moses Lake! Please consider petitioning your property into the District to help keep Moses Lake a thriving community!

www.mlird.org

(509) 765-8716



Results of the Point Intercept Survey Conducted in 2024





DEPARTMENT OF
ECOLOGY
State of Washington

Washington Department of Ecology

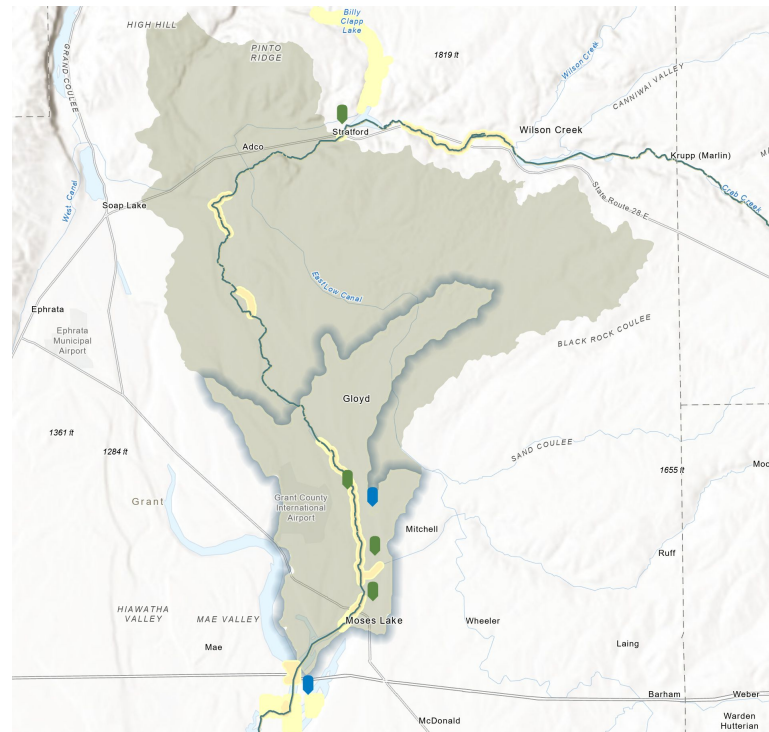
Map of riparian restoration projects present and future in the Crab Creek Watershed.



Present projects



Future projects





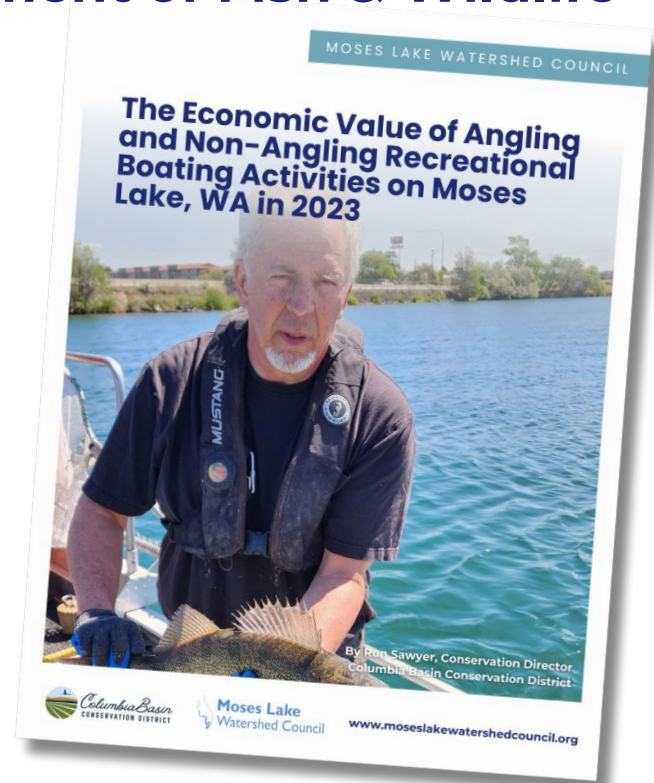
*Washington
Department of*
**FISH and
WILDLIFE**



Washington
Department of
**FISH and
WILDLIFE**

Washington Department of Fish & Wildlife

The total estimated direct value of
angling and non-angling recreational
boating activities in Moses Lake is
\$3,627,029.96.





— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Updates on the status of the Potholes Reservoir Reservoir Supplemental Feed Route

RECLAMATION
Managing Water in the West

Potholes Reservoir Supplemental Feed Route

**Finding of No Significant Impact
Environmental Assessment**

Columbia Basin Project
Grant County, Washington



U.S. Department of the Interior
Bureau of Reclamation
Pacific Northwest Region

August 2007



— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

Bureau of Reclamation

The Bureau participated in the
2025 Ripple Effect.

Ripple
Effect





— BUREAU OF —
RECLAMATION

USBR's feed of Columbia River Water through Moses Lake to Potholes Reservoir

Depending on Potholes Reservoir elevation and winter refill, an average of about 175,000 acre feet of Columbia River water is passed through Moses Lake, mostly during April through June, for the South Columbia Basin Irrigation District. That quantity represented about 1.4 lake volumes. The byproduct of the feed program improves water quality in Moses Lake. Feed water effectively dilutes phosphorus in the lake from other sources such as groundwater, surface water, and recycling from lake bottom sediments. (2025: 158,337 AF)



Q&A