### Cowiche Basin Working Rangelands—Washington State Conservation Commission

#### Significance
Will protect critical rangeland property from development. This project is a key piece of a strategy to keep ranching viable under an upland grazing and irrigated forage production operation that is common to Yakima County.

#### Tie to Comprehensive Plans
Described as a high priority conservation easement in the North Yakima Conservation District long range plan and a priority for the Office of Farmland Preservation. Project fits priorities of Yakima County, WDFW, and the Cowiche Conservancy.

#### Management Plan
Site Stewardship Plan, NRCS Farm Plan

#### Intended Uses
Grazing

#### Project Description
The easement will be purchased from a single private owner to keep the rangeland pasture intact and undeveloped. Maintaining the viability of this operation is expected to yield an annual economic input of over $775,000 to Yakima County. Project includes a significant portion of the Cowiche Creek drainage, with over 4 miles of Cowiche Creek included in the project area.

#### Partners
North Yakima Conservation District

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Estimated Acres</th>
<th>4,516 (4,358 upland, 149 riparian, 8 wetland)</th>
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</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Estimated Cost</td>
<td>$2,172,680</td>
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<tr>
<td>Type of Acquisition</td>
<td>Perpetual Agricultural Conservation Easement</td>
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<tr>
<td>Source of Funding</td>
<td>Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Farmland Preservation Program</td>
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<td>Legislative District</td>
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Site Location Map
Cowiche Basin Working Rangelands
State Conservation Commission - NYCD

Project Site

Recreaction and Conservation Office