



WESTERN RIVERS CONSERVANCY

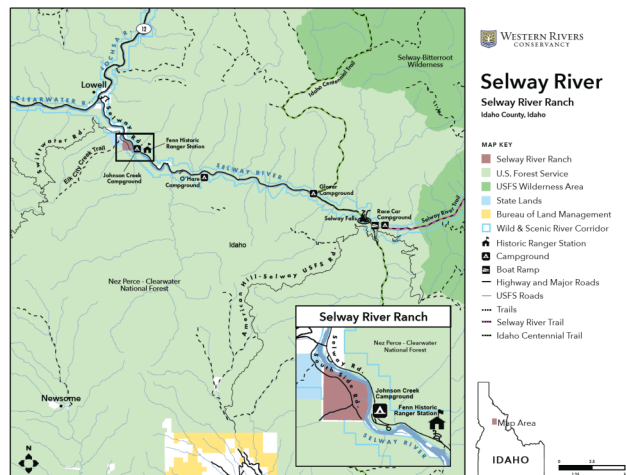
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Project Report Photos
June 2022

Idaho's Selway River: Expanding Protection of a Legendary Wild and Scenic River

One of eight rivers designated in the original Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968, the legendary Selway River is widely known as one of America's most spectacular, and most thoroughly protected, free-flowing rivers. Much of the river lies within the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness. Before the Selway's confluence with the Lochsa, it leaves the Selway-Bitterroot Wilderness and continues through the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests. Along this stretch, a few private inholdings along the otherwise wilderness-blanketed river remain unprotected. In 2021, WRC negotiated a deal to purchase one of the most important of these inholdings, the 152-acre Selway River Ranch. In April 2022, we purchased the ranch, locking in our commitment to this special property. We will now hold it while we pursue funding from the Land and Water Conservation Fund to convey the ranch to the Nez Perce-Clearwater National Forests, permanently conserving it.

Ellen Bernstein photo



Nason Ridge, WA: Cherished Mountainside Above Lake Wenatchee and Nason Creek Protected at Last

After four years of hard work, WRC, Chelan County and Chelan-Douglas Land Trust (CDLT) successfully created Nason Ridge Community Forest! Washington's newest community forest now spans 3,714 acres above Lake Wenatchee and permanently protects two miles of Nason Creek and all of Kahler Creek, two outstanding salmon-bearing streams and critical sources of cold water for the Wenatchee River. In 2018, WRC negotiated a deal to purchase Nason Ridge from Weyerhaeuser. We then held the property and joined forces with CDLT, Chelan County and the local community to raise funds to convey it to a steward that could keep the property intact and in public hands forever. That steward turned out to be Chelan County. With our partners and the local community, we raised \$6 million in public and private funding to convey the property to Chelan County in April 2022, beginning an exciting new chapter for Nason Ridge.

John Marshall photo

