

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

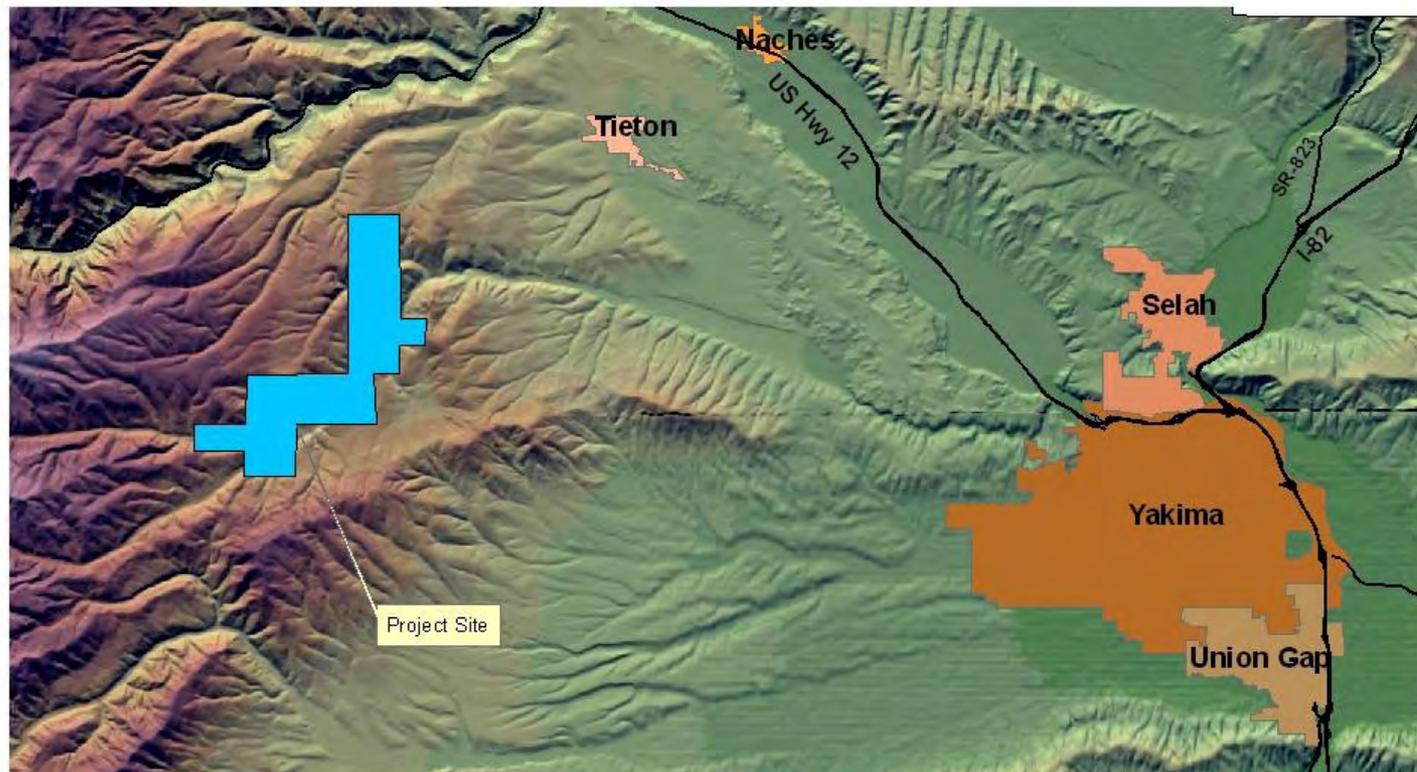
Estimated Acres	4,516 (4,358 upland, 149 riparian, 8 wetland)
Estimated Cost	\$2,172,680
Type of Acquisition	Perpetual Agricultural Conservation Easement
Source of Funding	Washington Wildlife and Recreation Program: Farmland Preservation Program
Legislative District	14



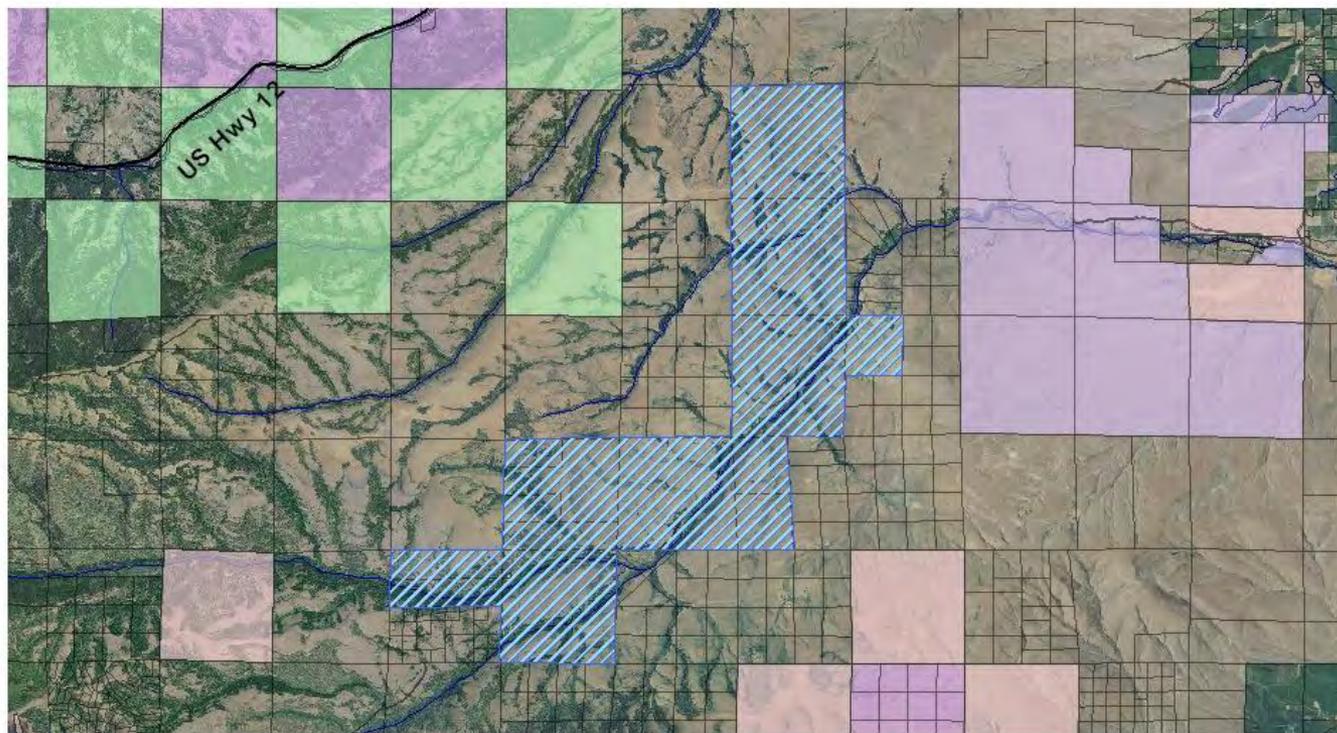
Site Location Map

Cowiche Basin Working Rangelands

State Conservation Commission - NYCD



Parcel Map Cowiche Basin Working Rangelands



-  Van Wyk Ranch
-  US Bureau of Land Management
-  US Forest Service: National Forest
-  WA Dept. of Fish and Wildlife
-  WA Dept. of Natural Resources

