

This is a printer friendly version of an article from [www.wenatcheeworld.com](http://www.wenatcheeworld.com)  
To print this article open the file menu and choose Print.

[Back](#)

---

Article published Oct 10, 2007

## **PUD to submit proposed Chelan trail system to feds for approval**

By [Christine Pratt](#)  
World staff writer

WENATCHEE — Chelan County PUD officials will soon submit for federal approval plans that add about 1.5 miles to Chelan's Riverwalk Loop Trail.

The extension will wind past Lake Chelan Dam over rugged terrain and roughly south past multiple viewpoints. It will then double back over PUD-owned scrubland and head north, paralleling the Chelan River canyon.

The trail will cost an estimated \$565,000 to \$750,000 to build and about \$9,500 annually to maintain. Most of it will be 5 feet wide and made of compacted gravel.

Kris Pomianek, the PUD's recreation resources administrator, told commissioners Monday that the utility will submit its plans before a Nov. 1 deadline.

The Federal Energy Regulatory Commission must approve the plan before construction can begin. Pomianek said she couldn't predict how long the approval process will take.

The trail extension is part of a commitment the PUD has made with local recreation groups. It's linked to the utility's new federal license to operate the dam and its distant powerhouse, more than two miles down a rugged canyon to the Columbia River.

The canyon has been dry except in the spring when the dam spills water. Under the new federal license, the PUD will work toward keeping water in the canyon year-round.

The trail plan includes a proposed 20-space parking area at the corner of Chiari Falls Road and East Iowa Avenue.

Trails will have scenic lookout points and signs describing terrain, flora and fauna, Pomianek said.

The lower part of the proposed new trail partially encompasses private land.

Pomianek said the land's developers have already expressed interest in allowing the PUD to build an additional trail to form a lower loop.

\*\*\*\*\*

GRAPHIC NOT SHOWN: Map showing proposed Chelan trail expansion (World graphic/Jared Johnson)

---