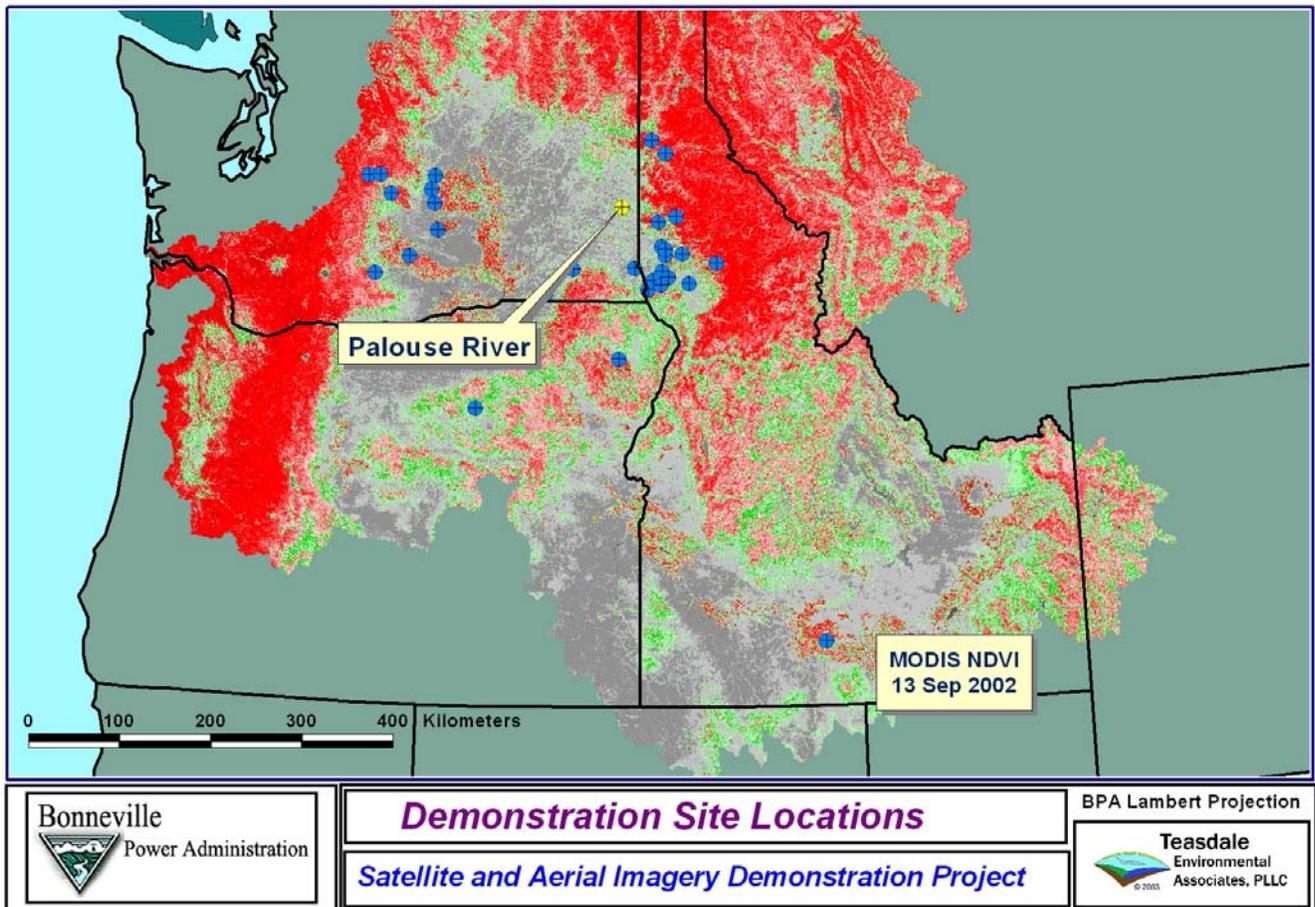


Palouse River Demonstration Site	
Location	Colfax, WA Whitman County, WA
Water body	Palouse River
Ecological Provenance	Columbia Plateau
Subbasin Name	Palouse
BPA Hydrologic Unit Code ID	2946
Hydrologic Unit Code, 6th Level	170601081401
Watershed Name	Palouse, WA



Unique Characteristics

The Palouse River as it passes through agricultural lands near Colfax, WA is slightly entrenched, low gradient (<0.5%) and meandering (meander ratio 1.5). Bed

material is mostly cobble with banks of finer material. Rosgen channel type is C3 with some tendencies to type C4. The mean annual discharge at the USGS gaging station 35 km upstream of the project site is 267 cfs.

Satellite imagery for this site includes Landsat 5, Landsat 7, and ASTER. Digital color aerial imagery was acquired on August 27, 2001. Digital color infrared aerial imagery was acquired on July 10, 2003. Ancillary data includes topographic DRG's, DOQ's, watershed boundaries and national land cover data.

Objective

The primary objective was to acquire very high-resolution digital color aerial imagery of the Palouse River riparian zone from Elberton to Colfax. Conservationists are using this imagery to characterize the initial condition of the riparian zone. Future images may be acquired to monitor the growth of vegetation planted in restoration work. Secondary objectives were to evaluate the land cover in the Palouse watershed with Landsat and ASTER imagery.

Results

Shade providing riparian cover is mostly lacking though recent conservation efforts are emphasizing reestablishment of native riparian vegetation. The satellite imagery clearly shows the agricultural character of the watershed. The aerial imagery shows the extent of riparian vegetation compared to the satellite imagery. Stream channel plan geometry is compared for several dates and sources of centerline information and is included as a GIS product in the dataset. Macrophyte beds and algae mats are seen downstream from Colfax in the color infrared aerial imagery.