



United States Department of the Interior Fish and Wildlife Service Mid-Columbia River Fishery Resource Office 7501 Icicle Road Leavenworth, WA 98826 Phone: (509) 548-7573 Fax: (509) 548-5743

June 22, 2009

Derek I. Sandison Director, Office of Columbia River State of Washington, Department of Ecology 15 W. Yakima Ave, Ste 200 Yakima, WA 98902-3452

Subject: Water for America - Basin Study Program - Yakima Basin Study Proposal

Dear Mr. Sandison:

I am writing to express the support of the USFWS (Service) for the Yakima Basin study proposed by the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and the Washington Department of Ecology under the Department of Interior's "Water for America" initiative. The Water for America Basin Study Program would provide substantial funding for the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project 2009 Work Group to develop a Comprehensive Water Resource Management Implementation Plan for the Yakima Basin.

The Service looks forward to participation on the 2009 Work Group and engaging in the implementation planning process.

Sincerely,

Jim L Craig Project Leader

Cc: Wendy Christensen, USBR, Columbia-Cascades Area Office