

# WALLA WALLA COUNTY WATERSHED PLANNING

500 Tausick Way, Walla Walla WA 99362

January 14, 2008

Mimi Wainwright  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
4601 N Monroe  
Spokane, WA 99205

RE: Columbia River Water Management Grant Program Request of Planning Unit Review of Consistency with Adopted Watershed Plans

Dear Ms. Wainwright:

The Walla Walla Watershed Plan for Water Resource Inventory Area (WRIA) 32 was approved by the WRIA 32 Planning Unit on May 9, 2005, and by the Walla Walla and Columbia County Commissioners in June 2005. This Watershed Plan has been prepared in cooperation and coordination with local citizens, governments, Tribal interests, landowners and regulatory agencies. The Watershed Plan addresses water resource needs for people and aquatic species within the Walla Walla watershed, including significant guidance on future implementation strategies.

We have reviewed the project proposals entitled: **“Walla Walla Rural Water Supply Program”**, **“Walla Walla Groundwater Replenishment and Instream Flow Enhancement Program”**, **“Little Walla Walla Rivers System Flow Feasibility Study”** submitted to Ecology in November, 2007 for consideration for funding under the Columbia River Water Management Grant Program. We have determined during our review that these pre-applications as currently presented are consistent with the recommendations found in the Walla Walla Watershed Plan for WRIA 32. Although applications submitted for project proposals entitled “Boise Cascade Wallula Aquifer Storage” and “Boise Cascade Wallula Cooling Tower Project” are technically within WRIA 32, the Planning Unit did not include the particular area where these projects are located within their planning process. We look forward to subsequent reviews of these proposals after final applications are received.

Sincerely,

Hal Thomas, City of Walla Walla  
Planning Unit Co-chair

Eric Myers, Columbia County Citizen  
Planning Unit Co-chair