

**Summary Results - Municipal/Domestic Water Conservation
Potential Range of Water Savings
Yakima River Basin Study (Task 2)
July 20, 2010**

Two “bookend” scenarios were examined:

- 1.) **No Action Scenario.** Continuation of existing State plumbing code; State requirements that local water systems include conservation programs; improved technology; and continued increase in consumer awareness of water scarcity. No coordination across Yakima Basin. No conservation programs for domestic well owners.
- 2.) **Comprehensive Scenario.** State plumbing code becomes more stringent by 2060. Local water systems much more active in promoting conservation, and programs coordinated across Yakima Basin. Domestic well owners included in conservation programs.

Results (in acre-feet):

	<u>No Action</u>	<u>Comprehensive</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Total water savings by 2060:	6,200	28,300	22,100
Consumptive ¹ savings by 2060:	1,100	8,700	7,600

Note: most of the consumptive use savings in the comprehensive scenario come from a large reduction in outdoor landscape water uses (conversion of 50% of household irrigated landscape to non-irrigated or xeriscape landscape).

Next Steps:

The Workgroup will need to determine how municipal/domestic water conservation program actions should be developed for the Integrated Plan.

- What level of water savings is desired, within these “bookends?”
- Should conservation be a condition on new supplies for municipal/domestic users?
- Who would pay program costs?
- How would administrative challenges be addressed?

¹ Consumptive use: the portion of water diverted or pumped that does not return to the Yakima River or to ground water aquifers.