Ben,

Here are my comments both general and specific.
First of all I like the structure of the document. When we move forward with the legislation itself and working with both the legislators it will need to be consolidated into a one or two page summary for discussion and then the more detailed items to back it up.

Page 3 line 7 and 8. It is not the purpose of this group to make conservation and efficiency programs and policies mandatory. We can accomplish the same goals through incentives and creative policy. Delete all of one and insert:

1. Programs and policies to reduce water demand through extensive water conservation measures for agricultural, municipal and residential users using incentive based programs and management practices determined at the local level.

Page 4 Lines 17 and 18
On line 17 place a period after IWRMP and delete the rest of the sentence.

At this time I do not have any more specific edits to add. I do however want to make some additional general comments. The phased approach as shown 0-10 years and 11-30 years I do agree with. The comments received by Yakima County in this regard take us in the wrong direction. We need to do the phased approach. As I have stated earlier we need to concentrate on IN BASIN storage, conservation, ecosystem improvements as so on first.

In regard to the Benton County comments received under Task 2 the concept of a not less then 70% as an all or nothing number which is the way I read it is not the best approach. Any additional storage (or supply increase) is an improvement whether it is Wymer, Bumping, Dead Storage, ASR and so on. Each one adds a percentage increase above where we are now. We can and need to be incremental and not get boxed in.

I hope these comments are helpful.

See you on Thursday
YRBWEP Workgroup Members and Interested Parties,

Attached with the draft Workgroup report sent out last week were comments that we had received on the Reclamation/Ecology Plan of Study and the Workgroup working draft recommendation. Inadvertently left off were the attached comments from Benton County. We apologize from not providing these sooner.

Also, as a reminder, Workgroup comments on the draft report are due today.

We have received some comments and once we have received all the comments we will send these out to the Workgroup for your information. Be looking for these in your email inbox sometime tomorrow, along with the agenda for this Thursday’s meeting.

Thanks,

Ben Floyd
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