

## Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

\* 1. Type of Submission:

- ☐ Preapplication  
☒ Application  
☐ Changed/Corrected Application

\* 2. Type of Application:

- ☒ New  
☐ Continuation  
☐ Revision

\* If Revision, select appropriate letter(s):

\* Other (Specify):

\* 3. Date Received:

06/25/2015

4. Applicant Identifier:

5a. Federal Entity Identifier:

5b. Federal Award Identifier:

R15AS00047

State Use Only:

6. Date Received by State:

7. State Application Identifier:

### 8. APPLICANT INFORMATION:

\* a. Legal Name: Washington State Department of Ecology

\* b. Employer/Taxpayer Identification Number (EIN/TIN):

91-6001063

\* c. Organizational DUNS:

7813478280000

### d. Address:

\* Street1:

PO Box 47600

Street2:

\* City:

Olympia

County/Parish:

Thurston

\* State:

WA: Washington

Province:

\* Country:

USA: UNITED STATES

\* Zip / Postal Code:

98504-7600

### e. Organizational Unit:

Department Name:

Water Resources

Division Name:

### f. Name and contact information of person to be contacted on matters involving this application:

Prefix:

Mr.

\* First Name:

Jeff

Middle Name:

J

\* Last Name:

Marti

Suffix:

Title: Drought Coordinator

Organizational Affiliation:

\* Telephone Number: 360-406-6627

Fax Number: 360-407-6574

\* Email: jeff.marti@ecy.wa.gov

## Application for Federal Assistance SF-424

### \* 9. Type of Applicant 1: Select Applicant Type:

A: State Government

Type of Applicant 2: Select Applicant Type:

Type of Applicant 3: Select Applicant Type:

\* Other (specify):

### \* 10. Name of Federal Agency:

Bureau of Reclamation

### 11. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number:

15.514

CFDA Title:

Reclamation States Emergency Drought Relief

### \* 12. Funding Opportunity Number:

R15AS00047

\* Title:

WaterSMART: Drought Contingency Planning Grants for Fiscal Year 2015

### 13. Competition Identification Number:

Title:

### 14. Areas Affected by Project (Cities, Counties, States, etc.):

Add Attachment

Delete Attachment

View Attachment

### \* 15. Descriptive Title of Applicant's Project:

Update of Washington State Drought Contingency Plan

Attach supporting documents as specified in agency instructions.

Add Attachments

Delete Attachments

View Attachments

**Application for Federal Assistance SF-424****16. Congressional Districts Of:**\* a. Applicant \* b. Program/Project 

Attach an additional list of Program/Project Congressional Districts if needed.

**17. Proposed Project:**\* a. Start Date: \* b. End Date: **18. Estimated Funding (\$):**

* a. Federal	<input type="text" value="172,409.00"/>
* b. Applicant	<input type="text" value="172,409.00"/>
* c. State	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* d. Local	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* e. Other	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* f. Program Income	<input type="text" value="0.00"/>
* g. TOTAL	<input type="text" value="344,818.00"/>

**\* 19. Is Application Subject to Review By State Under Executive Order 12372 Process?**

- ☐ a. This application was made available to the State under the Executive Order 12372 Process for review on .
- ☒ b. Program is subject to E.O. 12372 but has not been selected by the State for review.
- ☐ c. Program is not covered by E.O. 12372.

**\* 20. Is the Applicant Delinquent On Any Federal Debt? (If "Yes," provide explanation in attachment.)**☐ Yes ☒ No

If "Yes", provide explanation and attach

**21. \*By signing this application, I certify (1) to the statements contained in the list of certifications\*\* and (2) that the statements herein are true, complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge. I also provide the required assurances\*\* and agree to comply with any resulting terms if I accept an award. I am aware that any false, fictitious, or fraudulent statements or claims may subject me to criminal, civil, or administrative penalties. (U.S. Code, Title 218, Section 1001)**

☒ \*\* I AGREE

\*\* The list of certifications and assurances, or an internet site where you may obtain this list, is contained in the announcement or agency specific instructions.

**Authorized Representative:**

Prefix:  \* First Name:

Middle Name:

\* Last Name:

Suffix:

\* Title: \* Telephone Number:  Fax Number: \* Email: \* Signature of Authorized Representative:  \* Date Signed:

# BUDGET INFORMATION - Non-Construction Programs

OMB Number: 4040-0006  
Expiration Date: 06/30/2014

## SECTION A - BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Program Function or Activity  (a)	Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Number  (b)	Estimated Unobligated Funds		New or Revised Budget		
		Federal (c)	Non-Federal (d)	Federal (e)	Non-Federal (f)	Total (g)
1. Drought Relief - federal	15.514	\$	\$	\$ 172,409.00	\$	\$ 172,409.00
2. Drought Relief - nonfederal	15.514				172,409.00	172,409.00
3.						
4.						
5. Totals		\$	\$	\$ 172,409.00	\$ 172,409.00	\$ 344,818.00

### SECTION B - BUDGET CATEGORIES

6. Object Class Categories	GRANT PROGRAM, FUNCTION OR ACTIVITY				Total (5)
	(1) <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">Drought Relief - federal</div>	(2) <div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 2px; font-size: 0.8em;">Drought Relief - nonfederal</div>	(3)	(4)	
<b>a. Personnel</b>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">67,788.00</div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">67,788.00</div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">135,576.00</div>
<b>b. Fringe Benefits</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">20,743.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">20,743.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">41,486.00</div>
<b>c. Travel</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">1,818.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">1,818.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">3,636.00</div>
<b>d. Equipment</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">988.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">988.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">1,976.00</div>
<b>e. Supplies</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">5,465.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">5,465.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">10,930.00</div>
<b>f. Contractual</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">52,500.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">52,500.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">105,000.00</div>
<b>g. Construction</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>
<b>h. Other</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>
<b>i. Total Direct Charges (sum of 6a-6h)</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">149,302.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">149,302.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">298,604.00</div>
<b>j. Indirect Charges</b>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">23,107.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">23,107.00</div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	<div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">46,214.00</div>
<b>k. TOTALS (sum of 6i and 6j)</b>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">172,409.00</div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">172,409.00</div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px; text-align: right;">344,818.00</div>
<b>7. Program Income</b>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>	\$ <div style="border: 1px solid black; width: 100px;"></div>

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**SECTION C - NON-FEDERAL RESOURCES**

(a) Grant Program		(b) Applicant	(c) State	(d) Other Sources	(e)TOTALS
8.	Drought Relief - nonfederal	\$ 172,409.00	\$	\$	\$ 172,409.00
9.					
10.					
11.					
12. TOTAL (sum of lines 8-11)		\$ 172,409.00	\$	\$	\$ 172,409.00

**SECTION D - FORECASTED CASH NEEDS**

	Total for 1st Year	1st Quarter	2nd Quarter	3rd Quarter	4th Quarter
13. Federal	\$ 172,409.00	\$ 43,102.00	\$ 43,102.00	\$ 43,102.00	\$ 43,103.00
14. Non-Federal	\$ 172,409.00	43,102.00	43,102.00	43,102.00	43,103.00
15. TOTAL (sum of lines 13 and 14)	\$ 344,818.00	\$ 86,204.00	\$ 86,204.00	\$ 86,204.00	\$ 86,206.00

**SECTION E - BUDGET ESTIMATES OF FEDERAL FUNDS NEEDED FOR BALANCE OF THE PROJECT**

(a) Grant Program		FUTURE FUNDING PERIODS (YEARS)			
		(b)First	(c) Second	(d) Third	(e) Fourth
16.	Drought Relief - nonfederal	\$	\$	\$	\$
17.					
18.					
19.					
20. TOTAL (sum of lines 16 - 19)		\$	\$	\$	\$

**SECTION F - OTHER BUDGET INFORMATION**

21. Direct Charges:		22. Indirect Charges:	26.1% of salaries & benefits
23. Remarks:			

## ASSURANCES - NON-CONSTRUCTION PROGRAMS

Public reporting burden for this collection of information is estimated to average 15 minutes per response, including time for reviewing instructions, searching existing data sources, gathering and maintaining the data needed, and completing and reviewing the collection of information. Send comments regarding the burden estimate or any other aspect of this collection of information, including suggestions for reducing this burden, to the Office of Management and Budget, Paperwork Reduction Project (0348-0040), Washington, DC 20503.

**PLEASE DO NOT RETURN YOUR COMPLETED FORM TO THE OFFICE OF MANAGEMENT AND BUDGET. SEND IT TO THE ADDRESS PROVIDED BY THE SPONSORING AGENCY.**

**NOTE:** Certain of these assurances may not be applicable to your project or program. If you have questions, please contact the awarding agency. Further, certain Federal awarding agencies may require applicants to certify to additional assurances. If such is the case, you will be notified.

As the duly authorized representative of the applicant, I certify that the applicant:

1. Has the legal authority to apply for Federal assistance and the institutional, managerial and financial capability (including funds sufficient to pay the non-Federal share of project cost) to ensure proper planning, management and completion of the project described in this application.
2. Will give the awarding agency, the Comptroller General of the United States and, if appropriate, the State, through any authorized representative, access to and the right to examine all records, books, papers, or documents related to the award; and will establish a proper accounting system in accordance with generally accepted accounting standards or agency directives.
3. Will establish safeguards to prohibit employees from using their positions for a purpose that constitutes or presents the appearance of personal or organizational conflict of interest, or personal gain.
4. Will initiate and complete the work within the applicable time frame after receipt of approval of the awarding agency.
5. Will comply with the Intergovernmental Personnel Act of 1970 (42 U.S.C. §§4728-4763) relating to prescribed standards for merit systems for programs funded under one of the 19 statutes or regulations specified in Appendix A of OPM's Standards for a Merit System of Personnel Administration (5 C.F.R. 900, Subpart F).
6. Will comply with all Federal statutes relating to nondiscrimination. These include but are not limited to: (a) Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (P.L. 88-352) which prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color or national origin; (b) Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972, as amended (20 U.S.C. §§1681-1683, and 1685-1686), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of sex; (c) Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended (29 U.S.C. §794), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of handicaps; (d) the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§6101-6107), which prohibits discrimination on the basis of age; (e) the Drug Abuse Office and Treatment Act of 1972 (P.L. 92-255), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of drug abuse; (f) the Comprehensive Alcohol Abuse and Alcoholism Prevention, Treatment and Rehabilitation Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-616), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination on the basis of alcohol abuse or alcoholism; (g) §§523 and 527 of the Public Health Service Act of 1912 (42 U.S.C. §§290 dd-3 and 290 ee- 3), as amended, relating to confidentiality of alcohol and drug abuse patient records; (h) Title VIII of the Civil Rights Act of 1968 (42 U.S.C. §3601 et seq.), as amended, relating to nondiscrimination in the sale, rental or financing of housing; (i) any other nondiscrimination provisions in the specific statute(s) under which application for Federal assistance is being made; and, (j) the requirements of any other nondiscrimination statute(s) which may apply to the application.
7. Will comply, or has already complied, with the requirements of Titles II and III of the Uniform Relocation Assistance and Real Property Acquisition Policies Act of 1970 (P.L. 91-646) which provide for fair and equitable treatment of persons displaced or whose property is acquired as a result of Federal or federally-assisted programs. These requirements apply to all interests in real property acquired for project purposes regardless of Federal participation in purchases.
8. Will comply, as applicable, with provisions of the Hatch Act (5 U.S.C. §§1501-1508 and 7324-7328) which limit the political activities of employees whose principal employment activities are funded in whole or in part with Federal funds.

9. Will comply, as applicable, with the provisions of the Davis-Bacon Act (40 U.S.C. §§276a to 276a-7), the Copeland Act (40 U.S.C. §276c and 18 U.S.C. §874), and the Contract Work Hours and Safety Standards Act (40 U.S.C. §§327-333), regarding labor standards for federally-assisted construction subagreements.
10. Will comply, if applicable, with flood insurance purchase requirements of Section 102(a) of the Flood Disaster Protection Act of 1973 (P.L. 93-234) which requires recipients in a special flood hazard area to participate in the program and to purchase flood insurance if the total cost of insurable construction and acquisition is \$10,000 or more.
11. Will comply with environmental standards which may be prescribed pursuant to the following: (a) institution of environmental quality control measures under the National Environmental Policy Act of 1969 (P.L. 91-190) and Executive Order (EO) 11514; (b) notification of violating facilities pursuant to EO 11738; (c) protection of wetlands pursuant to EO 11990; (d) evaluation of flood hazards in floodplains in accordance with EO 11988; (e) assurance of project consistency with the approved State management program developed under the Coastal Zone Management Act of 1972 (16 U.S.C. §§1451 et seq.); (f) conformity of Federal actions to State (Clean Air) Implementation Plans under Section 176(c) of the Clean Air Act of 1955, as amended (42 U.S.C. §§7401 et seq.); (g) protection of underground sources of drinking water under the Safe Drinking Water Act of 1974, as amended (P.L. 93-523); and, (h) protection of endangered species under the Endangered Species Act of 1973, as amended (P.L. 93-205).
12. Will comply with the Wild and Scenic Rivers Act of 1968 (16 U.S.C. §§1271 et seq.) related to protecting components or potential components of the national wild and scenic rivers system.
13. Will assist the awarding agency in assuring compliance with Section 106 of the National Historic Preservation Act of 1966, as amended (16 U.S.C. §470), EO 11593 (identification and protection of historic properties), and the Archaeological and Historic Preservation Act of 1974 (16 U.S.C. §§469a-1 et seq.).
14. Will comply with P.L. 93-348 regarding the protection of human subjects involved in research, development, and related activities supported by this award of assistance.
15. Will comply with the Laboratory Animal Welfare Act of 1966 (P.L. 89-544, as amended, 7 U.S.C. §§2131 et seq.) pertaining to the care, handling, and treatment of warm blooded animals held for research, teaching, or other activities supported by this award of assistance.
16. Will comply with the Lead-Based Paint Poisoning Prevention Act (42 U.S.C. §§4801 et seq.) which prohibits the use of lead-based paint in construction or rehabilitation of residence structures.
17. Will cause to be performed the required financial and compliance audits in accordance with the Single Audit Act Amendments of 1996 and OMB Circular No. A-133, "Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations."
18. Will comply with all applicable requirements of all other Federal laws, executive orders, regulations, and policies governing this program.
19. Will comply with the requirements of Section 106(g) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPA) of 2000, as amended (22 U.S.C. 7104) which prohibits grant award recipients or a sub-recipient from (1) Engaging in severe forms of trafficking in persons during the period of time that the award is in effect (2) Procuring a commercial sex act during the period of time that the award is in effect or (3) Using forced labor in the performance of the award or subawards under the award.

<b>SIGNATURE OF AUTHORIZED CERTIFYING OFFICIAL</b>	<b>TITLE</b>
Jane Hicks	Chief Financial Officer
<b>APPLICANT ORGANIZATION</b>	<b>DATE SUBMITTED</b>
Washington State Department of Ecology	06/25/2015

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# *Application for Drought Contingency Planning Grant*

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Funding Opportunity Announcement No.: R15AS00047

CFDA Number: 15.514

This application for a Drought Contingency Planning Grant is submitted by the Washington Department of Ecology, in response to Funding Opportunity Announcement No. R15AS00047. The State of Washington seeks grant funding to enable an update of the Washington State Drought Contingency Plan. Ecology is the primary agency response for drought monitoring, permitting and the funding of emergency drought relief measures for Washington State.

The project manager for this request is Jeff Marti, Drought Coordinator, Washington Department of Ecology, Water Resources Program; contact information is [ieff.marti@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:ieff.marti@ecy.wa.gov) or (360) 407-6627.

Award documents:

- If sent by email, send to [federalgrants@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:federalgrants@ecy.wa.gov).
- If sent hard copy, send to:

Department of Ecology  
Fiscal Office  
PO Box 47615  
Olympia, WA 98504-7615

All other correspondence may be sent to:

Street address:  
Water Resources Program  
Attn: Barb Anderson  
300 Desmond Drive  
Lacey WA 98503

Mailing Address  
Water Resources Program  
Attn: Barb Anderson  
PO Box 47600  
Lacey WA 98504-7600

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## Executive Summary

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### **WaterSMART: Drought Contingency Planning Grants for Fiscal Year 2015**

**Applicant Name: Washington State Department of Ecology**

**Street address:**

Water Resources Program  
Attn: Barb Anderson  
300 Desmond Drive  
Lacey WA 98503

**Mailing Address**  
Water Resources Program  
Attn: Barb Anderson  
PO Box 47600  
Olympia, WA 98504-7600

This application for grant funding is submitted by the Washington Department of Ecology on behalf of the State of Washington.

Ecology seeks funding to update its Drought Contingency Plan, which was last published in 1992 (The plan was further revised in 2005, but never completed). If funding is obtained, Ecology will convene a Drought Planning Task Force develop recommendations regarding the following drought mitigation elements:

- 1) Drought Monitoring
- 2) Vulnerability Assessment
- 3) Mitigation Actions
- 4) Response Actions
- 5) Operational and Administrative Framework
- 6) Plan Update Process.

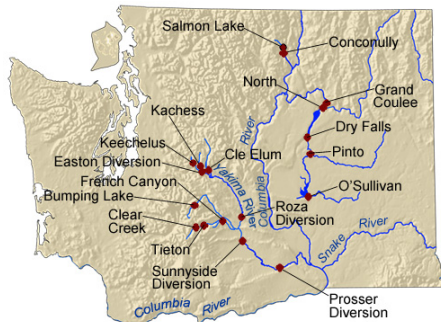
Ecology is the agency created to administer Washington State's Water Management Program, including its comprehensive water quality and water rights programs. Wash. Rev. Code 90.48.260; Wash. Rev. Code 43.21A.020; Wash. Rev. Code 43.27A.090; Wash. Rev. Code 90.03.010; Wash. Rev. Code 90.54.010; Wash. Rev. Code 90.58.010; 16 U.S.C. § 803(a); and 16 U.S.C. § 821. Ecology is authorized to implement emergency drought powers whenever drought conditions have been declared. Wash. Rev. Code 43.83B.405. Ecology also has statutory responsibilities in the matters of environmental review and coordination, pursuant to the State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA). Wash. Rev. Code 86.16.010, et seq.

## Background Data

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The relevant planning area is the entirety of Washington State. There are approximately 230,000 state issued water rights and claims within the state, owned by private, local, state and federal entities.

The federal Bureau of Reclamation manages a number of Projects, Powerplants and Dams within Washington State, represented by the map and list below. The Department of Ecology, as water manager for the state, has a long history of interacting and collaborating with the Bureau on water resources matters, especially with respect to the Yakima Project and Columbia Basin Project.



### Projects

Chief Joseph Dam Project  
Columbia Basin Project  
High Plains States Groundwater Recharge  
Demonstration Program Project  
Okanogan Project  
Spokane Valley Project  
Yakima Project

### Powerplants

Chandler Powerplant  
Grand Coulee Powerplant  
Roza Powerplant

### Dams

Bumping Lake Dam  
Cle Elum Dam  
Clear Creek Dam  
Conconully Dam  
Dry Falls Dam  
Easton Diversion Dam  
French Canyon Dam  
Grand Coulee Dam  
Kachess Dam  
Keechelus Dam  
North Dam  
O`Sullivan Dam  
Pinto Dam  
Roza Diversion Dam  
Salmon Lake Dam  
Tieton Dam

## Technical Project Description

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This proposal is for an Update of a Drought Contingency Plan (Task B).

### Need for Drought Contingency Plan Update

Washington State is experiencing a “snowpack drought”. This past winter was characterized by record-breaking warm temperatures, which caused most precipitation to fall as rain rather than snow. Snowpack conditions reached record low conditions at more than 70 percent of Washington State’s SNOTEL sites. The projected runoff for many of Washington State rivers for the April – September runoff period is predicted to be the lowest in the past 50 to 64 years (Northwest River Forecast Center, <http://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov>).

This is the first statewide declaration since 2005, and the first declaration of any scope since 2006. In the years following 2005, there has been significant staff turnover and loss of institutional memory. The drought plan last revised in 2005 has been of little value. The 2005 plan emphasizes the description of roles and responsibilities of different state agencies, but fails to describe the specific actions which must be prioritized and undertaken chronologically. Similarly, a 2005 report to the Legislature recommended a number of improvements to the state drought response which have not been implemented or at least incorporated into the State Drought Contingency Plan.

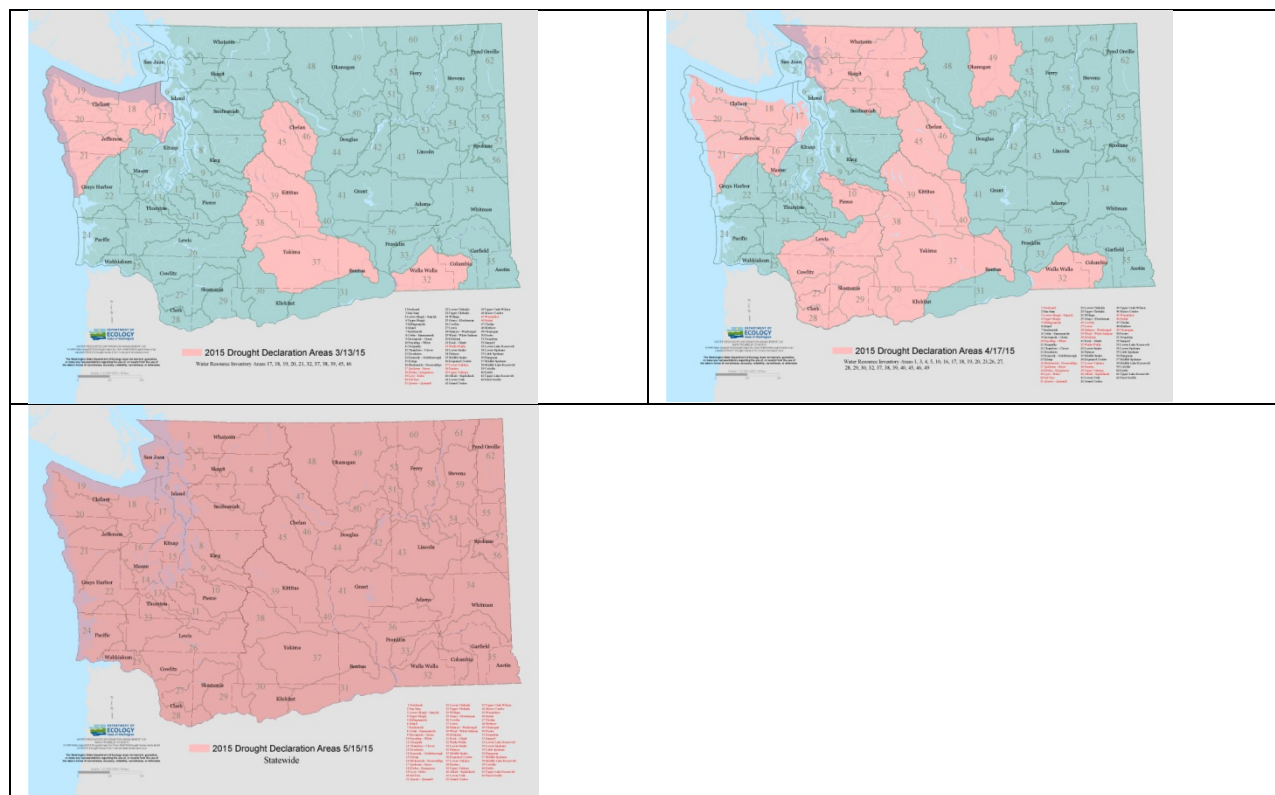
### Geographic Area in Drought Conditions

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Washington State initially declared drought in three key areas in early March 2015 – the Olympic Mountains, the east slope of the Cascades (including the Upper and Lower Yakima Basin, Wenatchee and Entiat Basins) and the Walla Walla Basin. In March, the state found that drought conditions existed in 11 of the state’s 62 watersheds. These were areas where snowpack and river forecast information, along with forecasts of likely hardship, were clear enough to merit drought declarations. In April the geographic area of the initial declaration was expanded to include other watersheds. In early May, a statewide declaration was issued as conditions continued to deteriorate and river volume forecasts continued to be revised downward. By early May, 48 of the state’s 62 watersheds – or approximately 85 percent of the state’s land mass -- were forecasted to have runoff that fell below the state’s statutory drought definition (75 percent of normal water supply).<sup>1</sup> The chronological expansion of the drought areas is depicted in the below table graphics.

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<sup>1</sup> <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/drought/2015DeclarationProcess.html>



## Climate Change

Washington State's Drought is a "snowpack drought". Record low snowpack conditions have resulted from the type of conditions predicted to occur more frequently in the future as a result of climate change: warmer temperatures and rising freezing elevations resulting in lower than normal snowpack accumulation, even though precipitation has been normal to near normal. Rising temperatures over the next decades will force water managers to adapt to an altered runoff regime in which more runoff occurs in the late-fall to early-spring time period and lower streamflow occurs in the late-spring, summer and early-fall. The degree of these impacts will vary according to whether a watershed is snow or rain-dominated, or mixed. These impacts are described in the Washington State Climate Impacts Assessment prepared by the Climate Impacts Group at the University of Washington<sup>2</sup>.

## Risks to Water Supply to Be Addressed in Drought Contingency Plan

Washington State's statutory drought definition requires that an expectation of hardship must be present in areas where water supply is expected to be less than 75 percent of normal. The

<sup>2</sup> State of Knowledge Report - Climate Change Impacts and Adaptation in Washington State: Technical Summaries for Decision Makers (2013), accessed at: <http://cses.washington.edu/cig/reports.shtml>

evaluation of potential hardship requires an evaluation of the risk of reduced water supply to users and uses.

### Agriculture

Washington State has 1.8 million acres of irrigated agriculture.<sup>3</sup> Seventy-five percent of those acres are supplied by surface water, the remainder by groundwater. Higher production costs and losses are attributable to loss of access to water, reduced water allocations, water right transfer and processing costs, well drilling, efficiency improvements and emergency infrastructure costs. Lower water availability can affect crop yield and quality. The Washington Department of Agriculture has estimated that the economic impacts attributable to this year's drought conditions will equal \$1.2 Billion.

### Fisheries

Fish life is critical to Washington State's economy, ecology and quality of life. Many specific salmon stocks are considered threatened or endangered pursuant to the federal Endangered Species Act.<sup>4</sup> Annual economic activity associated with commercial and sport fishing in Washington State totals \$2.5 billion annually. More than 175 million salmon, steelhead smolt, trout, and warm water fish are reared at state hatcheries for release into Washington Waters each year.<sup>5</sup>

During drought, instream habitat faces the following risks:

- River channels become very narrow or shallow.
- Pools are isolated when flow shifts underground, or
- Flow spreads out across the river bottom and becomes too shallow for fish to use for migration.
- People build small dams at popular river recreation locations, without realizing that such dams can completely block fish passage in low flow years.
- Water temperature increases

Hatchery facilities face related risks. Diversions can become stranded as flow recede from the river's edge. Higher water temperatures complicate disease management.

### Public Drinking Water Supply

Drought poses risks to community and private water supplies. Lower groundwater recharge from less snowmelt could lower groundwater levels beyond the pump depth of withdrawal facilities. Rising temperatures combined with the period dry year could prohibit refill of storage reservoirs. The Department of Health has screened water systems statewide for those systems

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<sup>3</sup> Data provided by the Washington State University Extension Service, accessed at <http://irrigation.wsu.edu/Content/Washington-Irrigation.php>

<sup>4</sup> Federally ESA Listed Fish Species for Washington State, accessed at [http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/endangered/esa/federally\\_listed\\_esa\\_fish.pdf](http://wdfw.wa.gov/conservation/endangered/esa/federally_listed_esa_fish.pdf)

<sup>5</sup> Fish, Wildlife and Washington's Economy, accessed at [http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01145/wdfw\\_01145.pdf](http://wdfw.wa.gov/publications/01145/wdfw_01145.pdf)

which depend on a shallow well and lack backup sources and storage. These systems are considered to be at a higher level of risk than large municipalities with large storage facilities that were able to store normal amounts of rainfall in lieu of snowpack melt. In past droughts, some communities have required emergency wells when spring sources dried up.<sup>6</sup>

These risks to supplies are expected to become more challenging as demand for water increases from population growth. Between 2010 and 2040, Washington State's population is expected to grow by just over 2.1 million persons, reaching 8,831,200 in 2040. Approximately 60 percent of the increase (1.3 million persons) is expected to come from net migration with the other 40 percent (0.8 million persons) due to natural increase.<sup>7</sup> The ability of large municipalities to continue to meet water supply needs as Washington State gains an additional two million people, while remaining in compliance with instream flow requirements to sustain downstream fisheries is not fully understood.

### Risks to Tribal Resources

There are 26 federally-recognized Indian Tribes located in Washington State (Figure Below). Salmon and other aquatic species are particularly significant to the culture and economy of Indian Tribes located in Washington State. The right to take fish in common with non-Indian populations is a key provision of Treaties between regional Tribes and the United States.<sup>8</sup> Tribes are regarded as co-managers of state fishery resources. The State's relationship with Tribes is on a government-to-government basis.<sup>9</sup> Tribal members depend on community water systems that may vulnerable to drought conditions. In 2006, for example, the State declared a drought emergency to specifically address a water supply emergency on the Makah Indian Reservation on the NW Olympic Peninsula.

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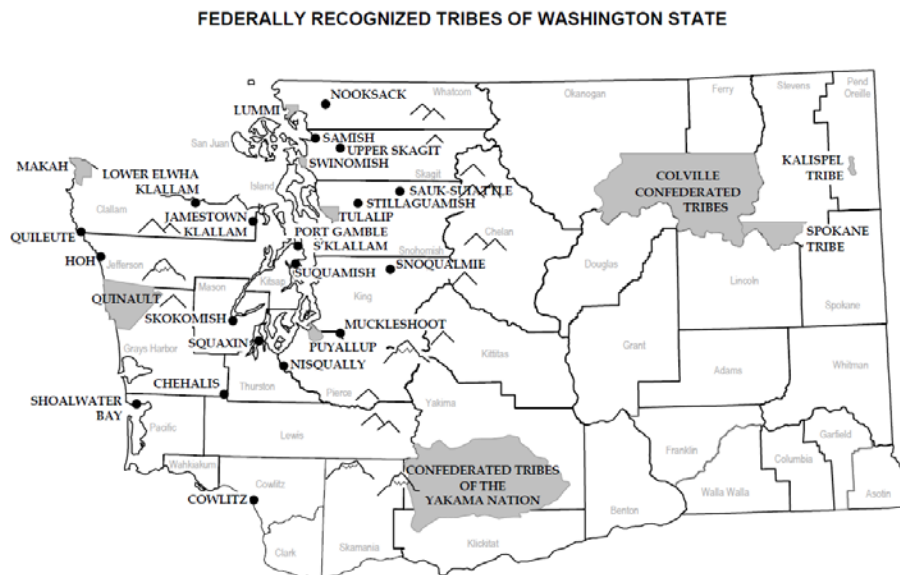
<sup>6</sup> 2005 Drought Response: Report to the Legislature. Publication Number 06-11-101, accessed at <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/summarypages/0611001.html>

<sup>7</sup> State of Washington: Forecast of the State Population, November 2014 Forecast, accessed at [http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/stfc/stfc2014/stfc\\_2014.pdf](http://www.ofm.wa.gov/pop/stfc/stfc2014/stfc_2014.pdf)

<sup>8</sup> Treaty of Point No Point, 1855. Accessed at: [http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&File\\_Id=5637](http://www.historylink.org/index.cfm?DisplayPage=output.cfm&File_Id=5637)

<sup>9</sup> Centennial Accord between the Federally Recognized Indian tribes in Washington State and the State of Washington. Accessed at: <http://www.goia.wa.gov/government-to-government/data/centennialaccord.htm>

**Figure 1 Federally Recognized Indian Tribes of Washington State**



Tribal resources also are potentially affected by drought response actions taken by non-Tribal entities (e.g., drilling of emergency wells, stream channel modifications). In the Yakima Basin in particular, the Yakima Nation is concerned about the effects of emergency well pumping on instream flows; a Memorandum of Agreement exists between the Tribe, the Bureau of Reclamation and Ecology to describe mitigation requirements under which a emergency well pumping program may proceed (e.g., fallowing of other senior water rights).

On the Olympic Peninsula, the Jamestown s’Klallam Tribe has already performed emergency stream channel modifications on Siebert Creek in the Dungeness Basin. In the Walla Walla Basin, the Umatilla Tribe has worked with water managers to facilitate fish salvage operations and emergency pulse flows.

### Risks to Power Supply

Washington is the leading U.S. producer of hydroelectric power, routinely contributing more than one-fourth of the nation's total net hydroelectric generation. Eight of the state's 10 largest power plants are hydroelectric facilities, primarily on the Columbia and Snake River.<sup>10</sup> In 2005, state costs related to reduced hydroelectric production from that year’s drought were estimated as \$3.5 Billion. This year, the Columbia River runoff for the Apr – Sept period, as measured at The Dalles is forecasted to be 67 percent of average.<sup>11</sup> At this point, we do not have specific economic values associated with this lower than normal runoff condition.

<sup>10</sup> <http://www.eia.gov/state/analysis.cfm?sid=WA>

<sup>11</sup> Columbia River at the Dalles, Northwest River Forecast Center, accessed on June 24: [http://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/water\\_supply/ws\\_forecasts.php?id=TDAO3](http://www.nwrfc.noaa.gov/water_supply/ws_forecasts.php?id=TDAO3)

## Documentation of Past Impacts

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Subsequent to Washington's previous statewide droughts in 2001 and 2005, the state contracted with the University of Washington to quantify the economic impacts of those droughts.<sup>12</sup> While these figures have not been adjusted to current economic values, they are indicative of the types of expected impacts.

### Key Findings:

- The industry hardest hit was typically agriculture, especially tree fruit growers in the Yakima District with junior water rights, reporting losses of up to \$65 per bin of apples due to reduced fruit quality during previous droughts (\$130 - \$150 per quality bin). Statewide, both apples and cherries reported record yields in 2005.
- Holders of proratable (junior) water rights in the Yakima received less than 50% of their entitlements (supplies) during the 2001 and 2005 droughts. Some fallowed entire fields to conserve water to use on more valuable perennial crops; others spent hundreds of thousands of dollars to drill emergency backup wells. One junior irrigation district spent \$2.8 million dollars to transfer additional water supplies from senior irrigation districts.
- Dryland wheat farmers in eastern Washington reported up to 70% fewer bushels produced per acre in some fields and above-normal production in fields less than 100 miles away, demonstrating the hit-and-miss nature of dryland farming impacts. The total harvest of 139.3 million bushels of wheat in 2005 was only slightly less than the average of the previous five years.
- Green industry (landscaping, plant nurseries, garden supply, etc.) interviewees reported revenue reductions of 8% to 20% in western Washington during 2005.
- Dairy farmers reported increased feed prices of approximately 30%.
- The costs to supply adequate water to crops increased statewide—a primary drought impact.
- Municipal water suppliers reported water restriction and ad campaign costs of \$3 million (drought advisory) to \$15 million (mandatory water restrictions) during previous droughts.
- Higher water temperatures and poor water quality killed hundreds of Spring Chinook Salmon in the Okanogan River prior to spawning.
- Low stream discharges blocked salmon passage in the Dungeness, Yakima, and Walla Walla Rivers.
- Cooperative shutdowns of irrigation diversions enabled fish passage in the Dungeness and Walla Walla Rivers.
- Hydropower lost approximately 5,300 MW, worth an estimated \$3.5 billion to Washington State, due to low river flows in the 2001 drought, primarily on the main stem of the Columbia River. These impacts were compounded by other energy shortages in the west.

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<sup>12</sup> Fontaine, M. M., Steinemann, A. C. (2007). University of Washington Drought Project, Final Report (Contract No. 0511100008). Washington Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development.

- Ski area visitation decreased by approximately one million visitors in Washington State during the 2004-2005 ski season (the 10-year average is approximately 1.5 million visits).

## Status of Existing Drought Contingency Plan

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Washington State's Existing Drought Contingency Plan was last revised in 2005. The plan is outdated and did not adequately predict the State's actual actions during this year's Drought response.

As the state began moving toward a formal drought declaration this past year, the plan was generally regarded as useful in terms of documenting general organizational roles and responsibilities, but of limited value in terms of guiding and prioritizing specific drought response actions. The existing plan inadequately distinguishes between essential and non-essential responsibilities in times of drought. In fact, much of the State's response was developed by consulting past legislative reports to determine what specific actions were actually undertaken pursuant to previous drought declarations.

The existing plan is limited in scope to the organizational responsibilities of state agencies and does not fully describe the interactions that need to occur with external parties, or even acknowledge whether such entities have drought contingency plans of their own. To the extent the plan does reference interactions with external entities, the descriptions are frequently vague.

The current plan contains no reference to climate change; a revised plan would incorporate climate change impacts and adaptation.

The current plan does not contain each of the essential elements recommended by the National Drought Mitigation Center. The plan is particularly weak in the areas emphasized below, or does not address them whatsoever.

1. Drought Monitoring (predict, recognize, plan for and respond)

2. Vulnerability Assessment (risks and impacts)

3. Mitigation Actions (mitigate risks and impacts before drought)

4. Response Actions (reduce impacts during drought)

5. Operational and Administrative Framework (roles and responsibilities)

6. Plan Update Process (ensure plan stays current)

## Diversity of Stakeholders

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Letters of Support were obtained from state and local government organizations and irrigation districts. They are attached.

The Department of Ecology regularly convenes workgroups and committee to work with diverse stakeholders whom are affected and interested in water management issues. For updating the state drought contingency plan, the following types of stakeholders would be invited to participate corresponding to general sectors impacted by drought. The manner and extent of participation will be decided later, but would probably vary from active Drought Task Force participation to opportunities to review and comment on draft work products.

The Department will communicate with the ongoing Water Resources Advisory Committee regarding the Drought Task Force and invite input on process and participation.<sup>13</sup>

In addition, the Department could schedule public workshops to hear from the general public and others and use other outreach tools like webinars.

These state agencies have roles and responsibilities described in the current version of the drought plan:

1. State Agencies
  - a. Governor's Office
  - b. Department of Ecology
  - c. Department of Agriculture
  - d. State Conservation Commission
  - e. Department of Fish and Wildlife
  - f. Department of Emergency Management
  - g. Department of Health
  - h. Department of Commerce
  - i. Department of Natural Resources
  - j. Employment Security Department
  - k. Department of General Administration
  - l. Office of State Climatologist
2. Public Water Supply
  - a. Key drought-affected Counties, or
  - b. The Washington Association of Counties
  - c. Washington Water Utilities Committee
3. Agriculture
  - a. Key drought affected-irrigation districts, or
  - b. Washington State Water Resources Association
4. Federal Agencies
  - a. Bureau of Reclamation (Irrigation/Power)

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<sup>13</sup> <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/WR/wrac/wrachome.html>

- b. NOAA (Northwest River Forecast Center/National Weather Service)
  - c. United States Geologic Survey
  - d. Natural Resources Conservation Service
  - e. United States Army Corps of Engineers
  - f. Bonneville Power Administration
- 5. Indian Tribes
  - a. Key affected Indian Tribes (e.g., Yakama Nation, Umatilla Tribe, Colville, Makah, Jamestown s’Klallam).
- 6. Fisheries
  - a. Northwest Indian Fisheries Commission
  - b. Trout Unlimited
  - c. Washington Water Trust
- 7. Power Supply
  - a. Key Utilities
- 8. Incorporation of Climate Change
  - a. Office of State Climatologist
  - b. University of Washington Climate Impacts Group

## Project Implementation

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As noted above the existing Drought Contingency Plan is weak or largely silent on some elements recommended by the NDMC. The plan update would focus upon strengthening and adding those elements, while ensuring that the existing elements are revised and made current.

A Drought Planning Task Force would be created. The department would use grant money to hire an outside facilitator to facilitate committee formation, meetings, assignments and other logistics. An option to an outside facilitator would be to hire an additional employee on a temporary project basis.

State agencies would provide staff support and perform the role of lead document drafting, with different employees taking the lead for different sectors. We anticipate that staff currently involved with state drought response would be the same employees assigned to updating the state drought plan. This includes staff from both technical (e.g., hydrogeology, fisheries, water system design and planning) and policy backgrounds. Some of these individuals were also involved the drought response in 2001 and 2005, so they bring a substantial expertise and experience to drought evaluation and response. Within the Department of Ecology, we are also able to draw on the knowledge of staff with expertise in water leasing and purchasing and who have work experience working with the federal Bureau of Reclamation (Yakima and Columbia Basin projects) on water supply issues.

We anticipate that the each of the six plan elements would require 1-2 months of dedicated discussion and drafting, followed by 3-6 months of work dedicated to integrating the multiple

elements. This would be followed by a three-month period to allow for public review, outreach and document revisions.

Total time for project completion would be 1.5 to a maximum of 2.0 years.

### Nexus to the Bureau of Reclamation

As noted above, there are a large number of Bureau of Reclamation Projects and facilities in Washington State. Key projects include the Yakima Project and Columbia Basin Project.

A revised drought contingency plan would include water supply considerations particular to these projects and would strongly benefit drought planning and response in both in the Yakima and larger Columbia Basin. A revised plan would complement water supply reliability work being undertaken as part of the Yakima Integrated Plan and under the management of Ecology's Office of Columbia River.

Ecology's Water Supply Advisory Committee, which monitors water supply conditions for drought, includes participation by Bureau staff from the Yakima Office.

### Existing Drought Contingency Plan

The Existing Drought Contingency Plan is attached.

### Required Permits or Approvals

There are no other permits or other approvals required for the development of this plan

### Letters of Support

Letters of Support for this grant request have been attached. The following organizations provided such letters:

Washington Department of Agriculture  
Washington State Department of Commerce  
Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife  
Washington Office of Emergency Management  
Roza Irrigation District  
Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District  
City of Yakima

### Official Resolution

This application has been reviewed and approved pursuant to the Department of Ecology's procedures, with a resolution letter attached.

### Project Budget

Budget Narrative

The proposed project scope consists of the updating of Washington State's Drought Contingency Plan. Funding would be used for these task categories. An estimated breakdown of costs is provided in the tables below.

- 1) Review and evaluation of available drought contingency plans with respect to drought planning elements recommended by the National Drought Mitigation Center (In Kind)
- 2) Prepare drought plan comparison matrix (in Kind)
- 3) Procure facilitation or consultant services to manage the logistics and meeting of a Drought Planning Task Force.
- 4) Creation of a temporary project position to lead the Department's Participation in the Task Force and Drafting of the Drought Plan
- 5) Funding of partial FTEs in the Departments of Emergency Management, Fish and Wildlife, Health and Agriculture to enable participation in the Drought Planning Task Force.
- 6) Eighteen (18) monthly meeting of the Drought Planning Task Force
- 7) Public Outreach (e.g., workshops and/or webinars)

#### Funding plan

The Department has not obtained and will not be dependent on any cost-share funding sources. The Department will make in-kind contributions in the form of staff time, document authoring, editing and distribution, and meeting facilities.

**Table 1-Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources**

Funding Sources	Funding Amount
Non-Federal Entities	
1.Washington State Department of Ecology	\$172,409
2.	
3.	
Non-Federal Subtotal	

**Table 2-Summary of Non-Federal and Federal Funding Sources**

Funding Sources	% of Total Cost	Total Cost by Source
Recipient Funding	50%	\$172,409
Reclamation Funding	50%	\$172,409
Other Federal Funding	N/A	
<b>Totals</b>		



UNITED STATES ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

WASHINGTON, D.C. 20460  
COGNIZANT AGENCY  
NEGOTIATION AGREEMENT

Page 1 of 2

State of Washington  
Department of Ecology  
Olympia, Washington

Date: May 11, 2015  
Filing Ref: May 12, 2014

The indirect cost rates contained herein are for use on grants and contracts with the Federal Government to which Office of Management and Budget Circular A-87 applies, subject to the limitations contained in the Circular and in Section II, A below.

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SECTION I: RATES

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<u>Type</u>	<u>Effective Period</u>		<u>Rate</u>	<u>Base</u>
	<u>From</u>	<u>To</u>		
Fixed	7/1/2015	6/30/2016	26.10%	(a)

Basis for Application

(a) Direct salaries and wages, including fringe benefits.

Treatment of Fringe Benefits: Fringe benefits applicable to direct salaries and wages are treated as direct costs and are not included in the rates identified above.

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SECTION II: GENERAL

A. LIMITATIONS: The rate in this Agreement is subject to any statutory and administrative limitations and apply to a given grant, contract or other agreement only to the extent that funds are available. Acceptance of the rates is subject to the following conditions: (1) Only costs incurred by the department/agency or allocated to the department/agency by an approved cost allocation plan were included in the indirect cost pool as finally accepted; such costs are legal obligations of the department/agency and are allowable under governing cost principles; (2) The same costs that have been treated as indirect costs have not been claimed as direct costs; (3) Similar types of costs have been accorded consistent accounting treatment; and (4) The information provided by the department/agency which was used to establish the rates is not later found to be materially incomplete or inaccurate by the Federal Government. In such situations the rate(s) would be subject to renegotiation at the discretion of the Federal Government.

B. CHANGES. The fixed rate contained in this agreement is based on the organizational structure and the accounting system in effect at the time the proposal was submitted. Changes in the organizational structure or changes in the method of accounting for costs which affect the amount of reimbursement resulting from use of the rate in this agreement, require the prior approval of the authorized representative of the responsible negotiation agency. Failure to obtain such approval may result in subsequent audit disallowances.

C. THE FIXED RATE contained in this agreement is based on an estimate of the cost which will be incurred during the period for which the rate applies. When the actual costs for such a period have been determined, an adjustment will be made in the negotiation following such determination to compensate for the difference between the cost used to establish the fixed rate and that which would have been used were the actual costs known at the time.

D. NOTIFICATION TO FEDERAL AGENCIES: Copies of this document may be provided to other Federal agencies as a means of notifying them of the agreement contained herein.

E. SPECIAL REMARKS: None.

ACCEPTANCE

By the State Agency:

Erik Fairchild

(Signature)

Erik Fairchild

(Name)

Chief Financial officer

(Title)

Department of Ecology

(Agency)

5/18/15

(Date)

By the Federal Agency:

Jacqueline Smith

(Signature)

Jacqueline Smith, Rate Negotiator  
Financial Analysis and  
Oversight Service Center  
U.S. Environmental  
Protection Agency  
May 11, 2015

Negotiated by: Jacqueline Smith  
Telephone: (202) 564-5055



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
*P.O. Box 42560 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2560 • (360) 902-1800*

June 19, 2015

Bureau of Reclamation  
Acquisition Operations Branch  
Attn: Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Mail Code: 84-27852  
P.O. Box 25007  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Funding Opportunity (No. 15AS0007)

Dear Ms Hoiby:

The Washington State Department of Agriculture is providing this letter for support for Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Application for a Drought Contingency Planning Grant made available through the Department of Interior's WaterSMART Program.

The Department of Ecology is submitting the application on behalf of the State of Washington. Ecology administers the state water right permitting system (RCW 90.03) and state and federal water quality laws (RCW 90.48) and is authorized to issue emergency declarations of drought, issue emergency drought permits and receive and disburse monies for the purpose of emergency drought relief (RCW 43.83B).

While Ecology is granted specific powers in the case of a drought emergency, the state response is multi-agency, given the diverse public health, economic and environmental sectors affected by drought conditions. The Washington State Department of Agriculture cooperates with Ecology in the administration of state drought response. Specifically, this agency is responsible for providing an information conduit between agricultural stakeholders and state decision makers, coordinating federal funding between stakeholders and federal agencies during a federal drought declaration, and helping those in need find possible resources of relief.

Washington State is currently in the midst of a statewide drought emergency. The last drought plan revision was in the year 2005, which also was the last year Washington State declared a statewide drought. The current plan has been insufficient for the purpose of describing and identifying necessary drought actions and considerations that are being undertaken for this year's drought response. Given the large degree of staff turnover since 2005, the lack of an up-to-date plan has made drought response more difficult, complex and time-consuming. The lack of a plan has undermined the ability of the State to plan for effective drought response.

Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Bureau of Reclamation  
June 19, 2015  
Page 2

As is more fully described in the application, the plan needs updating in order to transform it into an effective, actionable document which contains the elements deemed necessary by the National Drought Mitigation Center. My agency will commit to working with the Department of Ecology in developing an updated drought contingency plan and will participate on a Drought Planning Task Force, as required by the grant funding requirements.

Sincerely,



Derek I. Sandison  
Director

Cc: Jeff Marti, Washington Department of Ecology



**Water / Irrigation Division**  
**Working Together Toward Excellence in Service and Quality**

2301 Fruitvale Blvd.  
Yakima, WA 98902

*"Water is life and Infrastructure Makes it Happen"*

Bureau of Reclamation  
Acquisition Operations Branch  
Attn: Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Mail Code: 84-27852  
P.O. Box 25007  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Funding Opportunity (No. R15AS00047)

Dear Ms Hoiby:

The City of Yakima is providing this letter for support for Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Application for a Drought Contingency Planning Grant made available through the Department of Interior's WaterSMART Program.

The Department of Ecology is submitting the application on behalf of the State of Washington. Ecology administers the state water right permitting system (RCW 90.03) and state and federal water quality laws (RCW 90.48) and is authorized to issue emergency declarations of drought, issue emergency drought permits and receive and disburse monies for the purpose of emergency drought relief (RCW 43.83B).

While Ecology is granted specific powers in the case of a drought emergency, the state response is multi-agency, given the diverse public health, economic and environmental sectors affected by drought conditions.

It is essential that the State of Washington consult with us in developing appropriate drought responses, because drought affects resources that support our economy, environment, health and culture. The City of Yakima, Water/Irrigation Division cooperates with Ecology in the administration of state drought response. Specifically, this organization is responsible for the drinking water and non-potable water supplied for irrigation to some 65,000 citizens in Yakima.

Washington State is currently in the midst of a statewide drought emergency. The last drought plan revision was in the year 2005, which also was the last year Washington State declared a statewide drought. The current plan been insufficient for the purpose of describing and identifying necessary drought actions and considerations that are being undertaken for this year's drought response. Given the large degree of staff turnover since 2005, the lack of an up-to-date plan has made drought response more difficult, complex and time-consuming. The lack of a plan has challenged the ability of the State to plan for effective drought response.

As is more fully described in the application, the plan needs updating in order to transform it into an effective, actionable document which contains the elements deemed necessary by the National Drought Mitigation Center. My organization will commit to working with the Department of Ecology in developing an updated drought contingency plan and will participate on a Drought Planning Task Force, as required by the grant funding requirements.

**David E. Brown** Water/Irrigation Manager  
(509) 575-6204 Fax (509) 575-6187  
dbrown@ci.yakima.wa.us

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'David Brown', with a large, stylized loop at the end.

David Brown

Cc: Jeff Marti, Washington Department of Ecology

David E. Brown Water/Irrigation Manager  
(509) 575-6204 Fax (509) 575-6187  
dbrown@ci.yakima.wa.us



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

1011 Plum Street SE • PO Box 42525 • Olympia, Washington 98504-2525 • (360) 725-4000

[www.commerce.wa.gov](http://www.commerce.wa.gov)

June 16, 2015

Bureau of Reclamation  
Acquisition Operations Branch  
Attn: Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Mail Code: 84-27852  
P.O. Box 25007  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Funding Opportunity (No. 15AS0007)

Dear Ms. Hoiby:

The Washington State Department of Commerce is providing this letter of support for the Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Application for a Drought Contingency Planning Grant made available through the Department of Interior's WaterSMART Program.

The Department of Ecology is submitting the application on behalf of the State of Washington. Ecology administers the state water right permitting system (RCW 90.03) and state and federal water quality laws (RCW 90.48) and is authorized to issue emergency declarations of drought, issue emergency drought permits, and receive and disburse monies for the purpose of emergency drought relief (RCW 43.83B).

While Ecology is granted specific powers in the case of a drought emergency, the state response is multi-agency, given the diverse public health, economic, and environmental sectors affected by drought conditions. The Department of Commerce coordinates with Ecology in the administration of state drought response. Specifically, this agency is responsible for monitoring and assessing potential hydropower impacts from drought. Hydropower represents approximately 64 percent of electricity consumption in Washington, the highest percentage for any state in the country.

Washington State is currently in the midst of a statewide drought emergency. The last drought plan revision was in the year 2005, which also was the last year Washington State declared a statewide drought. The current plan is insufficient for the purpose of describing and identifying necessary drought actions and considerations that are being undertaken for this year's drought response. Given the large degree of staff turnover since 2005, the lack of an up-to-date plan has

Ms. Irene Hoiby

June 16, 2015

Page 2

made drought response more difficult, complex, and time-consuming. The lack of a plan has also undermined the ability of the State to plan for effective drought response.

As it is more fully described in the application, the plan needs updating in order to transform it into an effective, actionable document which contains the elements deemed necessary by the National Drought Mitigation Center. My agency will commit to working with the Department of Ecology in developing an updated drought contingency plan and will participate on a Drought Planning Task Force, as required by the grant funding requirements.

Sincerely,



Brian Bonlender  
Director

cc: Jeff Marti, Washington State Department of Ecology



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
MILITARY DEPARTMENT  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION

*MS: TA-20 Building 20  
Camp Murray, Washington 98430-5122  
Phone: (253) 512-7000 • FAX: (253) 512-7200*

June 3, 2015

Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Bureau of Reclamation  
Acquisition Operations Branch  
Mail Code: 84-27852  
P.O. Box 25007  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: **WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Funding Opportunity (No. 15AS0007)**

Dear Ms. Hoiby:

The Washington Military Department Emergency Management Division (EMD) supports the Washington Department of Ecology's application for the Drought Contingency Planning Grant opportunity from the US Department of Interior's WaterSMART Program.

EMD reduces the impact of disasters on people, property, economy, and environment through collaboration with other state, local, tribal, and federal partners. Washington State is currently in a statewide drought emergency without a comprehensive drought plan, potentially undermining the State's ability to prepare for effective drought response. Washington State law grants the Department of Ecology specific authorities during a drought emergency but the range of forthcoming drought impacts requires a multi-agency planning effort for successful drought contingency planning.

Washington State last declared a statewide drought in 2005. The drafted Drought Contingency Plan lacked actionable content that the National Drought Mitigation Center (NDMC) deems necessary for an effective plan and consequently was never finalized. Award of this grant program would provide Washington State the opportunity to accomplish NDMC's Drought Planning Process including a current vulnerability assessment and identifying drought mitigation and response actions. Longer term, this effort would inform the update process for the State Enhanced Hazard Mitigation Plan including the State's drought hazard profile and connect drought mitigation actions to our overall mitigation goals in effort to establish long-term resiliency to drought and climate change.

EMD commits to working with the Department of Ecology in developing a drought contingency plan as an active participant of the Drought Planning Task Force.



Ms. Irene Hoiby  
June 3, 2015  
Page 2

If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me at (253) 512-7001 or via email at [robert.ezelle@mil.wa.gov](mailto:robert.ezelle@mil.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read 'RE', with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Robert Ezelle  
Director

cc: Jeff Marti, Washington Department of Ecology



June 17, 2015

Bureau of Reclamation  
Acquisition Operations Branch  
Attn: Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Mail Code: 84-27852  
P.O. Box 25007  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Funding Opportunity (No. R15AS00047)

Dear Ms Hoiby:

The Roza Irrigation District is providing this letter for support for Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Application for a Drought Contingency Planning Grant made available through the Department of Interior's WaterSMART Program.

The Department of Ecology is submitting the application on behalf of the State of Washington. Ecology administers the state water right permitting system (RCW 90.03) and state and federal water quality laws (RCW 90.48) and is authorized to issue emergency declarations of drought, issue emergency drought permits and receive and disburse monies for the purpose of emergency drought relief (RCW 43.83B).

While Ecology is granted specific powers in the case of a drought emergency, the state response is multi-agency, given the diverse public health, economic and environmental sectors affected by drought conditions.

It is essential that the State of Washington consult with us in developing appropriate drought responses, because drought affects resources that support our economy, environment, health and culture. The Roza Irrigation District cooperates with Ecology in the administration of state drought response.

Washington State is currently in the midst of a statewide drought emergency. The last drought plan revision was in the year 2005, which also was the last year Washington State declared a statewide drought. The current plan been insufficient for the purpose of describing and identifying necessary drought actions and considerations that are being undertaken for this year's drought response. Given the large degree of staff turnover since 2005, the lack of an up-to-date plan has made drought response more difficult, complex and time-consuming. The lack of a plan has challenged the ability of the State to plan for effective drought response.

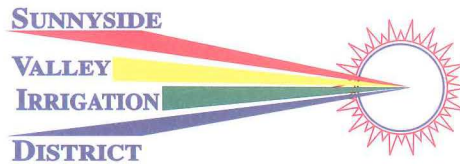
As is more fully described in the application, the plan needs updating in order to transform it into an effective, actionable document which contains the elements deemed necessary by the National Drought Mitigation Center. My organization will commit to working with the Department of Ecology in developing an updated drought contingency plan and will participate on a Drought Planning Task Force, as required by the grant funding requirements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Scott Revell". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "S" and "R".

Scott Revell  
District Manager

Cc: Jeff Marti, Washington Department of Ecology



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SERVING AGRICULTURE SINCE 1906

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June 16, 2015

Bureau of Reclamation  
Acquisition Operations Branch  
Attn: Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Mail Code: 84-27852  
P.O. Box 25007  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Funding Opportunity (No. R15AS00047)

Dear Ms. Hoiby:

I am pleased to provide this letter of support on behalf of the Board of Directors and management of the Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District for Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Application for a Drought Contingency Planning Grant made available through the Department of Interior's WaterSMART Program.

The Department of Ecology is submitting the application on behalf of the State of Washington. Ecology administers the state water right permitting system (RCW 90.03) and state and federal water quality laws (RCW 90.48) and is authorized to issue emergency declarations of drought, issue emergency drought permits and receive and disburse monies for the purpose of emergency drought relief (RCW 43.83B).

While Ecology is granted specific powers in the case of a drought emergency, the state response is multi-agency, given the diverse public health, economic, and environmental sectors affected by drought conditions.

It is essential that the State of Washington consult with us in developing appropriate drought responses because drought affects resources that support our economy, environment, health and culture. The Sunnyside Valley Irrigation District cooperates with Ecology in the administration of state drought response. Specifically, this organization meets regularly with Ecology staff to coordinate efforts, advises on the severity of drought impacts, works with Ecology to provide opportunities to transfer water on an emergency basis to neighboring irrigation districts with more junior water rights, and generally supports Ecology's drought responses efforts with supportive comments to legislators, the news media, and the public generally.

Washington State is currently in the midst of a statewide drought emergency. The last drought plan revision was in the year 2005, which also was the last year Washington State declared a statewide drought. The current plan has been insufficient for the purpose of describing and

Ms. Irene M. Hoiby


June 16, 2015

Page 2

identifying necessary drought actions that are being undertaken for this year's drought response. Given the large degree of staff turnover since 2005, the lack of an up-to-date plan has made drought response more difficult, complex and time-consuming. The lack of a plan has challenged the ability of the State to plan for effective drought response.

As is more fully described in the application, the plan needs updating in order to transform it into an effective, actionable document which contains the elements deemed necessary by the National Drought Mitigation Center. My organization will commit to working with the Department of Ecology in developing an updated drought contingency plan and will participate on a Drought Planning Task Force, as required by the grant funding requirements.

Sincerely,



James W. Trull  
District Manager

Cc: Jeff Marti, Washington Department of Ecology



State of Washington  
**DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE**

Mailing Address: 600 Capitol Way N, Olympia, WA 98501-1091 • (360) 902-2200 • TDD (360) 902-2207  
Main Office Location: Natural Resources Building, 1111 Washington Street SE, Olympia, WA

June 16, 2015

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation  
Acquisition Operations Branch  
Attn: Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Mail Code: 84-27852  
P.O. Box 25007  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: WaterSMART Drought Contingency Planning Funding Opportunity (No. R15AS00047)

Dear Ms. Hoiby:

The Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW) is providing this support letter for the Washington State Department of Ecology's (Ecology) Application for a Drought Contingency Planning Grant made available through the Department of the Interior's WaterSMART Program. Ecology is submitting the application on behalf of the state of Washington. Ecology administers the state water right permitting system (RCW 90.03) and state and federal water quality laws (RCW 90.48) and is authorized to issue emergency declarations of drought, issue emergency drought permits, and receive and disburse monies for the purpose of emergency drought relief (RCW 43.83B).

While Ecology is granted specific powers in the case of a drought emergency, the state response is multi-agency, given the diverse public health, economic and environmental sectors affected by drought conditions. It is essential the state of Washington agencies collaborate in developing appropriate drought responses. WDFW cooperates with Ecology in the administration of state drought response by being responsible for drought responses directed at fish and wildlife conservation and protection.

Washington State is currently in the midst of a statewide drought emergency. The last drought plan revision was in 2005, which also was the last year Washington State declared a statewide drought. The current plan is insufficient for the purpose of describing and identifying necessary drought actions and considerations that are being undertaken for this year's drought response. Given the large degree of staff turnover since 2005 and the lack of an updated plan, Washington State's ability to plan for effective drought responses is compromised.

The plan needs to be updated to transform it into an effective, actionable document, including the elements required by the National Drought Mitigation Center. WDFW will commit to

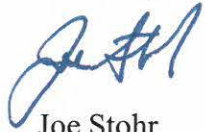
U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

June 16, 2015

Page 2

collaborating with the Department of Ecology in developing an updated drought contingency plan and will participate on a Drought Planning Task Force, as required by the grant funding requirements.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Joe Stohr", is positioned above the printed name.

Joe Stohr  
Deputy Director

cc: Jeff Marti, Washington State Department of Ecology

**WASHINGTON STATE**  
**DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN**

WATER RESOURCES PROGRAM  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY  
January 2005

## **Abbreviations and Acronyms**

<b>BIA</b>	Bureau of Indian Affairs
<b>CAC</b>	Climate Analysis Center
<b>CFS</b>	Centralized Forecast System
<b>CMi</b>	Crop moisture index
<b>CROHMS</b>	Columbia River Operational Hydromet System
<b>CTED</b>	Community, Trade, and Economic Development
<b>DNR</b>	Department of Natural Resources
<b>DOH</b>	Department of Health
<b>Ecology</b>	Department of Ecology
<b>EDA</b>	Economic Development Administration
<b>EMD</b>	Military Department, Emergency Management Division
<b>EOC</b>	Emergency Operations Center
<b>ESD</b>	Employment Security Department
<b>EWEC</b>	Executive Water Emergency Committee
<b>FAPRS</b>	Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System
<b>FCRPS</b>	Federal Columbia River Power System
<b>FmHA</b>	Farmers Home Administration
<b>FSA</b>	USDA, Farm Service Agency
<b>GA</b>	Department of General Administration
<b>HPA</b>	Hydraulic Project Approval permit
<b>MOU</b>	Memorandum(s) of understanding
<b>NRCS</b>	National Resource Conservation Service
<b>OMB/GSA</b>	Federal Office of Management and Budget/General Services Administration
<b>RMA</b>	USDA, Risk Management Agency
<b>SEPA</b>	State Environmental Policy Act
<b>SNOTEL</b>	Snow pack telemetry
<b>SOPs</b>	Standard operating procedures
<b>USDA</b>	United States Department of Agriculture
<b>UTC</b>	Utilities and Transportation Commission
<b>WDFW</b>	Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife
<b>WSAC</b>	Water Supply Availability Committee
<b>WSDA</b>	Washington State Department of Agriculture
<b>WSP</b>	Washington State Patrol

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## DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

### I. PURPOSE

To provide a process for: monitoring water supply conditions around the state; anticipating potential drought problems; mobilizing local, state and federal resources should drought conditions occur; coordinating local, state and federal responses to such conditions; gathering and disseminating pertinent water supply and water use information; managing the state's natural resources effectively during times of water shortage; and providing relief and assistance to those seriously affected by drought so as to minimize the overall impacts of drought upon the citizens of the state.

### II. OPERATIONAL CONCEPTS

- A. The **Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC)**, chaired by the Department of Ecology (Ecology), conducts ongoing water supply monitoring and forecasting. This forecasting provides an opportunity for early recognition of conditions indicating a possible drought.

WSAC can initiate early mobilization of necessary state and local resources prior to a possible drought by asking the Governor to convene the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). WSAC may also place County Food and Agricultural Committees (Emergency Boards) on alert to anticipate future requests for drought assistance when drought conditions seem likely. "Drought condition," as defined in RCW 43.83B.400, means that the water supply for an area is below 75 percent of normal and the shortage is likely to create undue hardships for water uses and users.

WSAC continues to evaluate water supply conditions statewide and determines which, if any, areas suffer from drought conditions. Ecology can then, with the concurrence of the WSAC and EWEC plus the written approval of the Governor, issue orders designating areas as suffering from drought and authorize specific emergency actions.

- B. The **Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC)** functions as the top-level decision making body in assessing the overall effects of a drought and formulating a coordinated state response. EWEC is made up of a combination of state, federal, and local agencies affected by drought conditions and is chaired by the Governor's Office. EWEC also coordinates drought activities with other states and Canada as necessary.
- C. A multidisciplinary **Technical Advisory Committee** and/or any number of specialized **Task Forces** may be convened by EWEC as deemed appropriate to assess specific drought impacts and propose short and long-term solutions. (See Appendix C for a list of potential Task Forces and suggested agency participation.)

- D. The **Drought Action Program** will serve as the guiding document for the implementation of a prompt and effective response to continued drought conditions. It will be produced by EWEC based upon task force proposals and will detail the various agency responses.
- E. The **Department of Ecology**, as the state agency entrusted with the management of the state's water resources, will serve as the lead agency in coordinating state agencies' responses to drought. Pursuant to RCW 43.83B.405, Ecology, upon consultation with WSAC and EWEC, and with the written approval of the Governor, can designate areas of the state as suffering from "drought conditions." Emergency rules for augmenting water supplies will then take effect in those areas. Emergency funds to minimize drought impacts on agriculture, public water supplies, fish, and wildlife are also then available for use within those areas. Throughout the course of a drought, Ecology will act as the state clearinghouse for drought information.
- F. The **Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA)** will provide coordination of federal, state, and local drought relief efforts for the agricultural community.
- G. The Washington State Military Department, **Emergency Management Division (EMD)** will handle requests for drought assistance from non-agricultural communities and individuals when the state Emergency Operations Center has been activated to address the drought.
- H. WSAC will provide intensive monitoring of water supply conditions continuously throughout the drought period. Once the WSAC has determined that drought conditions have abated, EWEC shall conduct a thorough review and evaluation of state agency actions taken in response to drought for appropriateness and effectiveness. Modifications should be made to the current plan where problems or weaknesses have been identified.
- I. The Governor's Office may convene EWEC in mid-winter annually to facilitate on-going drought planning and preparedness throughout the state, and to maintain agency commitments and a list of current agency contacts for drought issues.

### III. ORGANIZATIONS AND RESPONSIBILITIES

This section defines the roles and responsibilities, in a general sense, of state, local, federal, and volunteer agencies. It also defines the relationships between the different levels of government and private agencies (in essence, who does what).

#### A. STATE

The State of Washington will serve a dual role in assisting its citizens to cope with future droughts. State agencies, as resource managers, will act to predict as early as possible any potential adverse effects of a drought, develop a plan for responding to such situations, and take necessary and appropriate actions to lessen the negative impacts of such situations.

The state will also assist local communities, through emergency and non-emergency programs, when local capabilities and resources are inadequate to deal with the drought event. In providing assistance to those affected by emergencies, including droughts, EMD is specifically empowered to coordinate state actions.

The various roles described here do not represent the entire scope of each individual agency's statutory responsibilities. They are, rather, those aspects of the agency's responsibilities which come into play during a drought. Those roles are listed by agency.

#### 1. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

- a. Convene and chair the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) as needed and/or when requested to by Ecology based upon the advice of the Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC) that water supply conditions for one or more areas within the state for the upcoming season are likely to be below 75 percent of normal. The EWEC will determine if the water shortages will result in undue hardships being incurred, providing the second test for the determination of "drought conditions."
- b. Review water supply information and, if necessary, provide written approval for Ecology to issue regulatory orders declaring droughts in identified geographical areas under the provisions of RCW 43.83B.405.
- c. Proclaim a state of emergency, and review and submit requests for federal assistance when both state and local efforts prove insufficient to cope with drought emergencies.

#### 2. DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY (Ecology)

- a. Conduct water resources planning activities, including basin planning, setting minimum instream flows, and other activities which permit the logical and orderly management and use of the resource.
- b. Administer the Agricultural Water Supply Facilities Program. Ecology regularly disburses funds to public bodies for the upgrading and improvement of agricultural water supplies and delivery facilities. These funds can be used for projects that conserve water, improve water delivery efficiency, lessen canal and line losses, enhance fish passage, and other measures which have a direct benefit during periods of drought.
- c. Accept and investigate applications for new water rights, permitting such uses if sufficient water is available for the new use and no conflict with existing rights will result. Such new rights will be subject to regulation based upon any provisions contained in the permit, including minimum streamflow levels. This may include emergency water withdrawal authorizations during droughts.
- d. Process water right transfers. Current state law allows for the transfer of water rights to others when the transfer can be accomplished without detriment to any existing water rights.
- e. Conduct adjudications of water right claims. Many claims to water rights exist in Washington which predate the state water code. The only vehicle for determining the validity of such claims is a general adjudication of water rights for a particular area. The existence of an adjudication decree provides a framework for regulation of water rights within a given drainage basin. Such a general adjudication is currently underway for the Yakima River Basin.
- f. Serve as chair of the Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC). The chairperson will serve as the principal WSAC contact with the Governor's Office, EWEC, Task Forces, Emergency Management Division (EMD), and other agencies concerned with drought matters.
- g. Serve as chair of the Public Information and Education Task Force when convened by EWEC during water shortages. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- h. Serve as a member of the Agriculture Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- i. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- j. Serve as a member of the Energy Task Force when convened by EWEC.

- k. Serve as a member of the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force when convened by EWEC.
  - l. Serve as a member of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC.
  - m. Serve as a member of the Fish and Wildlife Task Force when convened by EWEC.
3. MILITARY DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EMD)
- a. Coordinate state assistance to individuals, communities, and local governments in response to drought conditions. General authority (not drought specific) for dealing with emergencies under chapter 38.52 RCW resides with the State Military Department.
  - b. Serve as liaison between state, federal, and local agencies on matters pertaining to emergency preparedness and assistance.
  - c. Serve as a member of the Energy Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee.
  - d. Coordinate Fire Mobilization in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP).
  - e. Assemble Situation Reports for emergencies and disasters with input from supporting agencies when the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been activated on behalf of the state.
4. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH)
- a. Monitor water supply conditions for public water supply systems throughout the state.
  - b. Provide technical assistance to utilities and local health departments on water shortage response planning and implementation.
  - c. Serve as chair of the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
  - d. Serve as a member of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC.

5. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (WSDA)

- a. Receive and compile situation reports related to agricultural difficulties from local departments of emergency management/services. (If the Emergency Operations Center is activated, this role may pass to EMD.)
- b. Prepare requests to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture for emergency declarations of a drought.
- c. Coordinate the federal, state, and local relief efforts for the agricultural community. This includes cooperating with other state and federal agencies to provide assistance, using funds from the Emergency Loan Program, to help family and part-time farmers who have been adversely affected by causes beyond their control, such as drought.
- d. Serve as chair of the Agriculture Task Force. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- e. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- f. Serve as a member of the Public Information and Education Task Force when convened by EWEC.

6. DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE (WDFW)

- a. Preserve, manage, and enhance the state's wildlife and the food fish, game fish, and shellfish in state fresh and offshore waters to protect the resources.
- b. Maintain the economic well being and stability of the fishing industry in the state.
- c. Regulate timing, location, quantity, and manner for the taking of wildlife and food fish, game fish, and shellfish throughout the state, including restricting harvest, to maintain viable populations.
- d. Maintain and enhance public recreational game fishing and hunting to maximize opportunities of all citizens, including juveniles, seniors, and the disabled.
- e. Operate fish hatcheries to increase populations of classified food and game fish species.

- f. Allocate fish resources among the various users.
- g. Preserve, protect and enhance habitat for classified game animals and fish and all unclassified fish and wildlife species.
- h. Serve as chair of the Fish and Wildlife Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as spokesperson for the Task Force.
- i. Serve as a member of the Wildfire and Forest Closures Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- j. Serve as a member of the Agriculture Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- k. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- l. Serve as a member of the Energy Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- m. Serve as a member of the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- n. Serve as a member of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC.

7. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR)

- a. Conduct timber management and harvesting activities on all state-owned forestlands. Oversee similar activities on privately-owned forestlands. Monitor timber management and harvesting practices to minimize environmental hazards.
- b. Conduct fire prevention and fire suppression activities for all forestlands administered by the department and under private ownership.
- c. Serve as chair of the Wildfire and Forest Closures Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- d. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- e. Serve as a member of the Fish and Wildlife Task Force when convened by EWEC.

8. EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT (ESD)

- a. Monitor impacts on employment resulting from any drought occurrence (with CTED). Potential areas of concern include forced plant closures, forest operations closures, and reduced demand for migrant labor.
- b. Identify means of ameliorating the drought-related impacts on employment. Determine what assistance programs can be used to help those adversely affected by drought conditions. Utilize the Shared Work Program, under the provisions of chapter 50.60 RCW, to minimize the short-term effects of drought on local businesses. [The Shared Work Program allows the employer to reduce the hours of all affected workers by an agreed-upon percentage without laying anyone off. The affected workers are paid a percentage of their unemployment benefits that corresponds to the percentage of the reduction of their regular work hours.]
- c. Administer programs, in cooperation with DOH and OCD, to assist communities, which have been placed under long-term stress as a result of drought.
- d. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- e. Serve as a member of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC.

9. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- a. Serve as chair of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC during water shortages. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- b. Serve as chair of the Energy Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- c. Serve as chair of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- d. Serve as a member of the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- e. Monitor economic conditions and trends throughout the state (with ESD), especially if the possibility of drought arises. Inform the Competitiveness Council and the Economic Development Commission of trends and potential impacts.

f. Develop and emphasize energy conservation programs, which will minimize water utilization in times of short supply.

g. Encourage efficient use of energy by local governments, state agencies, and public schools.

h. Anticipate energy issues, such as drought, which could adversely affect the state's economic climate.

10. PARKS AND RECREATION COMMITTEE

a. Co-chair the Recreation and Tourism Task Force when convened by EWEC.

b. Serve as a member of the Wildfire and Forest Closure Task Force when convened by EWEC.

11. INTERAGENCY COMMITTEE OF OUTDOOR RECREATION

a. Serve as a member of the Recreation and Tourism Task Force when convened by EWEC.

12. DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (GA)

a. Operate and renovate state facilities.

b. Manage and maintain state buildings and grounds.

B. LOCAL

Local governments will provide first response to any drought situations. Local government officials, community and business leaders are often the first to need to implement action plans designed to minimize the impacts of a drought. They also coordinate response actions with the Emergency Management Division if federal or state assistance is needed.

1. DEPARTMENTS OF EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT/SERVICES

a. Monitor local businesses, industries, and individuals to assess drought-related impacts.

b. Receive "situation reports" of agricultural difficulties from county Emergency Boards and forward them to the Department of Agriculture or, if activated, the state Emergency Operations Center (Emergency Management Division).

- c. Gather information on local drought effects and needs.
- d. Work with local governments, state and federal agencies, and the private sector to alleviate problems and fill needs at the local level.
- e. If necessary, prepare a resolution or ordinance proclaiming a local state of emergency, which will authorize emergency expenditures. Forward the proclamation to the Emergency Management Division (EMD).
- f. Determine the adequacy of local and state assistance in meeting emergency needs.
- g. If necessary, assist officials in evaluating and verifying need for assistance from the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers.
- h. Determine need for any special drought assistance authorized under PL 93-288. If needed, prepare proclamation of emergency and official request for assistance and submit to EMD.

## 2. LOCAL HEALTH DEPARTMENTS

Work with DOH to develop a program for providing services benefiting small water systems in a drought.

## 3. COUNTY FOOD AND AGRICULTURAL COMMITTEE (also known as Emergency Board)

- a. Monitor local businesses, industries, and individuals to assess drought-related impacts. Gather information on local drought effects and needs.
- b. Prepare "situation reports" detailing drought-caused difficulties and submit them to the local emergency management agency.

## 4. COOPERATIVE EXTENSION

- a. Develop and disseminate drought-related information to established information network.
- b. Provide up to date information and educational assistance to the agricultural community on how best to cope with drought conditions.
- c. Conduct research into methods, practices, and crop species which might minimize impacts of droughts and disseminate the information as it is developed.

## 5. COUNTY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT COUNCILS

- a. Interface regularly with business leaders and elected officials, including on issues of drought preparedness and impact.
- b. Serve as a source of information on business trends and local economic conditions as they relate to drought.

## C. FEDERAL

The federal government also serves multiple roles in addressing potential droughts. Many federal agencies have as their primary mandate the collection and dissemination of information for particular purposes. In the context of drought, these agencies would be those that forecast weather and water supply conditions. Other agencies exist primarily for providing assistance, both on an ongoing basis and in response to emergencies. Finally, some agencies, such as the Natural Resources Conservation Service, are empowered to provide both types of service to individuals and communities.

Federal emergency assistance is supplemental to state and local efforts. Federal assistance is requested when the Governor makes a determination that local and state governments cannot respond effectively to alleviate a particular problem. Individual federal agencies, acting upon their own, can provide limited assistance to certain segments of society affected by drought. Coordinated federal programs can be made available as the need arises.

This section lists activities undertaken by the different federal agencies. They do not represent the entire scope of each individual agency's statutory responsibilities. They are, rather, those aspects of the agency's responsibilities, which would come into play during a drought. Those roles are listed by agency.

### 1. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

#### a. BUREAU OF RECLAMATION

- i. Provide programs which assist irrigation districts to secure adequate supplies of water and install the necessary facilities for delivery and distribution of that water.
- ii. Evaluate water supply conditions on Bureau of Reclamation projects. Compare these conditions to project planning criteria to determine if the project meets supply requirements. Reclamation projects are planned with "water shortage criteria" in drought years. Planning criteria are established to recognize the cost of providing a full water supply in all years and yet ensure the long-term economic viability of the project area.

iii. Evaluate drought-related conditions on all Reclamation projects and identify recommended relief measures. Any time water supplies fail to allow an adequate supply, Reclamation seeks to identify, with its contractors, methods to extend the available water supply to reduce adverse economic impacts.

iv. Coordinate project operations with the Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), irrigation districts, and other operators of diversion facilities.

v. Modify project operations to minimize drought-related impacts. These modifications often include operations that enhance water delivery to contractors but may also include actions to protect fish, wildlife, recreation, and other values.

vi. Assess the need for changes in Reclamation policy to better accommodate drought year problems and solutions. This process naturally occurs during periods of water shortage when conflicts arise among competing uses of water.

vii. Provide public information and education. Historically, Reclamation has prepared public service announcements to encourage efficient water use during drought periods. Reclamation also makes water supply and forecast information available to state and federal agencies for drought assessment. Reclamation meets with irrigation district managers to present water supply information, develop short-term operating plans, and suggest methods to extend the available water supply.

viii. Implement programs authorized and funded by Congress through emergency legislation. These programs can include grants, loans, construction, and emergency authorities. Reclamation coordinates these activities with state, federal, and local authorities and with water user entities.

b. GEOLOGICAL SURVEY

i. Measure and record streamflow data for most of the major rivers and streams of the state.

ii. Compare current streamflow characteristics with those of the past to evaluate current conditions.

iii. Conduct surface and ground water investigations, primarily as a cooperator with state and local agencies on projects involving water quality

and supply issues. Determine the availability and quality of water supplies and evaluate hazardous conditions.

iv. Maintain remotely obtained streamflow data on real-time basis on local database.

v. Conduct research on hydrologic processes and the effects of climate change.

c. BONNEVILLE POWER ADMINISTRATION

i. Coordinate the operation of the Federal Columbia River Power System (FCRPS), a network of hydropower dams which are under the ownership of several different public and private bodies.

ii. Maintain data on current and projected electrical energy loads and coordinate with other energy producers to meet loads under low water/drought conditions.

iii. Provide technical assistance to large energy users in the service area to improve efficiency in energy utilization.

iv. Implement the "Guide to Tools and Principles for a Dry Year Strategy" when drought conditions exist.

2. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE

a. NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE

i. Produce hydrologic forecasts, including Water Supply forecasts and Peak Flow and Crest Stage forecasts, for much of the state from the Pacific Northwest River Forecast Center in Portland. Cooperate with the Soil Conservation Service in the determination and production of the Water Supply Forecasts.

ii. Produce short range (3 to 5 day) weather forecasts for the state. Longer-range forecasts (6 to 10 day, 30 day, and 90 day) are developed by the Weather Service in Washington, D.C. and distributed to the field offices.

iii. Collect and maintain meteorological records for weather stations around the state, including precipitation and temperature. Produce reports summarizing state meteorological data.

- iv. Perform climate analyses and produce weekly Palmer Drought Index values, long-term Palmer values, and Crop Moisture Index (CMI) values for the ten climatic regions of the state.
    - v. Maintain a Climate Dial-Up Service at their Climate Analysis Center (CAC) in Maryland, which includes several databases where climatic information can be accessed.
  - b. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT ADMINISTRATION (EDA)
    - i. Provide grants for construction of public facilities in designated areas where economic conditions trail those of the rest of the nation.
    - ii. Provide project grants to states and local governments to assist in reversing either long-term economic deterioration or short-term economic dislocations, such as could result from drought.
3. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
- a. NATURAL RESOURCE CONSERVATION SERVICE (NRCS)
    - i. Produce estimates during the winter and spring months of future water supply conditions based upon precipitation and snowpack conditions. Publish monthly Water Supply Outlook bulletins summarizing water supply conditions.
    - ii. Maintain remote snowpack telemetry (SNOTEL) sites, which automatically record and relay snowfall depth and snow water content information.
    - iii. Conduct snow surveys to produce estimates of the amount of water stored in the snowpack for other regions of the state.
    - iv. Track soil moisture conditions as an indicator of the amount of water that will be available to plants in the absence of additional precipitation.
    - v. Provide much of the information collected, as well as data gathered by other agencies, on the Centralized Forecast System (CFS) computer system, which is located at the West National Technical Center in Oregon. The NRCS also performs extensive analyses of the data collected.

- vi. Provide technical advice on matters pertaining to farm conservation practices, water conservation, water quality improvement, and other similar issues of concern to the agricultural community.
- b. FARM SERVICES AGENCY
    - i. Provide regular programs which can be used to enhance water quality, improve farm and water use efficiency, protect and preserve wetlands, and manage watersheds.
    - ii. Provide emergency programs which can be used for emergency conservation measures, such as water conservation or enhancement, during times of drought.
    - iii. Serve as chair of the State Emergency Board. This board receives "situation reports" from the local emergency boards concerning disaster conditions. The State Emergency Board coordinates drought activities with CTED and WSDA as well as provides advice to the Secretary of Agriculture concerning possible emergency declarations or designations.
  - c. FARMERS HOME ADMINISTRATION (FmHA)
    - i. Offer direct and guaranteed loan programs as well as grants to the agricultural and business communities to increase economic opportunities, improve farming conditions, reduce pollution, improve community facilities, and provide emergency disaster relief.
    - ii. Provide guaranteed and insured loans to assist family farmers, ranchers and aquaculture operators in recovering from losses resulting from natural disasters such as drought.
  - d. FEDERAL CROP INSURANCE CORPORATION
 

Provide premium subsidies, and a portion of administration and operating expenses of private companies participating in the Federal Crop Insurance Program. Reinsure the companies by absorbing the losses of the program when indemnities exceed total premiums.
4. U.S. DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE
- a. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS
    - i. Operate several hydropower dams along the Columbia and Snake rivers.

ii. Maintain several dams on the western slope of the Cascades, which are used for flood control and other purposes.

iii. Maintain an active interest in the water supply conditions around the state. The Corps' major involvement in water supply issues is from the combined perspectives of hydropower and flood control, but related issues involved in the operation of the dams require Corps participation in water management decisions.

iv. Maintain several extensive databases on their Columbia River Operational Hydromet System (CROHMS) computer system in Oregon. Serve as participant in the Columbia River Water Management Group.

v. Control navigation along the Columbia and Snake rivers. This might require maintaining a clear channel for river traffic at very low streamflows. This could become important during times when crops must be delivered either to storage or to market in a timely manner.

vi. Construct wells and transport water to farmers, ranchers, and political subdivisions, under certain conditions, within areas determined to be drought-distressed by the Chief of Engineers. The authority to do this is part of the Corps' responsibility under Public Law 84-99.

#### 5. SMALL BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION

a. Provide direct and guaranteed loan programs to individuals and business concerns, including agricultural cooperatives, which have suffered physical or economic losses, which occurred in a declared disaster area.

b. Provide advisory services, counseling, technical assistance and training to independently owned businesses to help improve management skills.

#### 6. FEDERAL EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AGENCY

a. Provide disaster assistance to states, local governments, and nonprofit organizations in instances of a presidential declaration of an emergency or major disaster.

b. Provide disaster assistance to individuals and families adversely affected by disasters or emergencies including temporary housing, and crisis counseling.

c. Provide grants to states for the suppression of forest and grassland fires.



#### D. OTHER

This section will address capabilities and responses, which might be undertaken by other agencies. Since those cited are largely volunteer in nature, the amount of assistance they might be able to provide is limited. However, they could provide invaluable assistance particularly for short-term problems, such as the feeding and housing of either migrant or suddenly dislocated workers.

##### 1. AMERICAN RED CROSS

- a. Provide technical consultation and guidance to local and state government agencies or officials when planning for the distribution of water from central sites to community residences.
- b. Establish and staff first aid stations at community sites designated for the distribution of water to residents.
- c. Coordinate volunteer agency activities designed to support local community response efforts.
- d. Provide voluntary personnel to assist local government response actions.

##### 2. SALVATION ARMY

- a. Provide voluntary personnel to assist local government officials in responding to drought-caused problems.
- b. Provide emergency food and shelter for individuals adversely affected by drought.
- c. Cooperate with the American Red Cross in providing emergency assistance to persons affected by drought conditions.

#### IV. OPERATIONS/FUNCTIONS

This section describes how the plan will actually function from the onset of drought conditions through to the full implementation of the appropriate level of response.

##### A. FORECASTING OF WATER SUPPLY CONDITIONS: **The Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC)**

The Water Supply Availability Committee is an advisory panel with core membership consisting of Ecology and several federal agencies, which deal with water supply issues, including the forecasting of future water supplies. Other state agencies that do not perform forecasting, but might be affected by drought, are included as members so they might avail themselves of the latest water supply information.

The committee should meet periodically (at least every other month) to review water supply assessments and predictions and reconcile any discrepancies among them. Meetings may be postponed if a poll of the core member agencies indicates the water supply outlook is not a major concern.

At meetings, each of the forecasting agencies, all of which are concerned with one or more aspects of water supply throughout the state, reports on conditions as they perceive them. Any agencies with drought-related functions will be welcome at all WSAC meetings to receive updated briefings on current water supply conditions.

If the committee determines that one or more areas of the state will likely receive less than 75 percent of their normal water supply and will suffer undue hardships as a result of the shortage, they shall advise the Governor to convene the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) which, in turn, can activate the appropriate task forces to address the issues raised by drought in those areas. The committee will also advise Ecology as to those areas of the state which might experience water supply shortages. Ecology, after consulting with federal and state entities, including WSAC and EWEC, and securing the written approval of the Governor, will then be able to issue regulatory orders declaring droughts for those defined geographical areas.

WSAC is to be the main point for dissemination of water supply information. They will be responsible for reconciling discrepancies in the various forecasts and producing a consensus report on future water supplies for the state. Ecology will release this information in its Water Supply Update, which is prepared on a monthly basis. As chair of WSAC, Ecology will also serve as the primary contact for the committee on other water supply issues.

**B. ORGANIZATION OF STATE DROUGHT RESPONSE ACTIONS: The Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC)**

The Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) will serve as the body responsible for making drought-related policy decisions at the state level. The Governor shall convene EWEC if one or more areas of the state appear likely receive less than 75 percent of their normal water supply and will suffer undue hardships as a result of the shortage. EWEC in turn will activate the appropriate task forces to address the issues raised by drought in those areas. EWEC can also be convened under other circumstances, such as to review or update procedures, or if the Governor feels that state agency directors need to be informed of certain conditions pertaining to water supply matters.

The Governor's Office will chair the committee and Ecology staff will serve as staff to the Committee. The Emergency Management Division (EMD) of the State Military Department will coordinate state agency resources to support the needs of local governments. The staffs of the other agencies will form the body of experts that can be assigned to deal with solutions to specific drought-related problems and issues at the local level.

Membership in EWEC is comprised of state and federal agencies which have drought-related responsibilities. Most of those agencies proposed for membership have participated in past drought activities. Membership on the committee will be at two levels.

The decision-making level will consist of the directors or designated appointees of the respective agencies. They will be responsible for making determinations as to the apparent severity of any drought occurrence along with the appropriate responses to be undertaken and will advise the Governor accordingly. They will also assist Ecology in determining those specific areas of the state which are experiencing water supply shortages and suffering undue hardships as a result. The frequency of EWEC meetings will depend upon the nature of any particular drought emergency.

Appropriate staff from the member agencies will provide a second, working level of the committee. They will meet more frequently to receive the task force reports, monitor the progress of drought relief efforts and propose future courses of action. Working group members may in instances also be the task force members from the respective agencies.

**C. ASSESSMENT OF DROUGHT IMPACTS: Task Forces**

One of the primary objectives of the Executive Water Emergency Committee will be the assessment of drought impacts. The committee will be assisted in achieving this objective by several issue-specific task forces, the members of which will be designated by EWEC.

The task forces will consist of members with expertise in particular aspects of the effects of drought and will form the main driving force of the drought response effort. They will be the groups actually making determinations as to the extent and severity of any drought and proposing possible solutions. Each task force will be charged with a specific area of responsibility. Task forces addressing the following areas are currently envisioned:

- Agriculture
- Economic Impacts
- Energy
- Fish and Wildlife
- Wildfire and Forest Closures
- Municipal/Domestic Supply
- Public Information and Education
- Business, Employment and Community Assistance

The proposed membership of the drought task forces is listed in Appendix C. A multi-disciplinary advisory group or additional task forces may be created and additional members added by EWEC as they see fit.

EWEC, acting upon the counsel of the task forces, will make the appropriate policy determinations as to how to most effectively respond to any specific drought.

The task forces would be convened by EWEC for the express purpose of assessing the probable impacts of any drought occurrence. They could also be convened, along with EWEC, in non-drought years to develop and implement strategies to alleviate potential impacts, which could occur in future droughts.

Each task force would investigate, in depth, potential impacts in their area of concern and produce a report to EWEC summarizing their findings and proposals. Included in their reports would be a summary of possible effects and proposed solutions. The scope of the work of the task forces would not be limited to the present drought, however. They should also report on changes, which could be made to prevent reoccurrence of similar problems in future, drought events.

The reports would then be distilled by EWEC to produce a Drought Action Program for each drought event. EWEC should produce an Initial Drought Action Program within the

first few weeks of their convening. This initial program would then be modified accordingly, as the extent of the drought becomes more apparent.

The Drought Action Program will be the guiding document for the state's response to a particular drought event and would provide the framework for analysis of the current situation, determination of appropriate responses and eventual identification of areas which need improvement for future droughts.

#### D. LOCAL ASSISTANCE: Getting Aid to Those Affected by Drought

This section generally describes the forms of assistance available to communities and the public for dealing with drought-caused problems, when such assistance is available, and how to apply for it.

The first and most immediate source of assistance remains local agencies, such as Cooperative Extension and Emergency Services/Management, which can provide technical advice and guidance to those encountering drought problems. The local Emergency Services/Management agency also collects information on the effects and severity of drought and can have local officials proclaim a local state of emergency, which authorizes emergency expenditures. Local agencies can assist those seeking state or federal aid.

The state and federal government offer many programs, which can aid those, affected by drought. Some are ongoing while others become available only in instances when local efforts are overwhelmed.

State assistance is available primarily in the form of technical assistance, cost-sharing programs, and coordination between state, local, and federal agencies. Under specific conditions, state agencies can be reimbursed for unbudgeted expenses encountered in responding to an emergency.

The primary source of financial assistance for losses resulting from drought is the federal government.

##### 1. REGULAR (NON-EMERGENCY) PROGRAMS

Both the state and federal governments provide regular assistance programs, which are available to farmers, businesses and industries, communities, and special purpose organizations, such as water utilities and irrigation districts. These programs are ongoing and require no extenuating circumstances before they become available. Additional programs can be made available under specified emergency conditions.

a. STATE PROGRAMS

Regular state assistance programs can be in the form of technical assistance, grants, and loans. Technical assistance of different types is provided by several agencies, including the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development, the Department of Ecology, the Employment Security Department, and the Department of Health. These programs characteristically have specific objectives but could potentially be utilized to deal with problems related to drought.

Applications for these forms of assistance are usually handled by the individual agencies themselves, either through their headquarters or, in some instances, through their local or regional branches.

State grant and loan programs also generally have specific objectives. The programs are all structured individually and can involve some combination of cost sharing, loans, and outright grants. These programs are also generally handled by the individual agencies themselves.

b. FEDERAL PROGRAMS

The federal government offers many ongoing programs which provide technical services to water users. The U.S. Geological Survey, the National Weather Service, and the Natural Resources Conservation Service are all involved in aspects of water supply forecasting and monitoring. The information they provide is valuable for planning and scheduling purposes.

The U.S. Department of Agriculture, through the Farm Service Agency administers most of the many regular federal assistance programs, which could be of value during times of drought. Most of these programs are intended to provide technical advice to the agricultural community, including producers, warehousemen, and retailers. These programs are administered through local Farm Service Agency offices.

2. EMERGENCY PROGRAMS

The state and federal governments have many forms of emergency assistance which are available to farmers, businesses and industries, communities, and special purpose organizations, such as water utilities and irrigation districts. Some of these programs are emergency extensions of regular programs while others apply only during emergencies.

The determination of what constitutes an emergency for purposes of securing assistance from these programs varies. Some can be activated with no emergency determination at all, others require only a local determination of emergency, while others require some form of regional or statewide declaration. One must refer to the specific program or agency to determine the triggering mechanism.

a. STATE PROGRAMS

Emergency programs which could be of value during a drought are provided by several state agencies, including the Department of Agriculture; the Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development; the Department of Ecology; the Employment Security Department; the Department of Fish and Wildlife; and the Department of Health. These programs, most of which address specific problems, provide technical and/or financial assistance to individuals, communities, and special districts. Most have rather strict conditions, which must be met to qualify for assistance.

Applications for state emergency assistance, particularly grants and loans, are generally made to the agencies themselves. Agencies usually either adopt or have in place rules establishing eligibility requirements and application procedures. Additionally, regular state programs may be modified in whole or in part, to make additional assistance available under emergency conditions.

b. FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Federal emergency programs, many of which have resided with the U.S. Department of Agriculture since 1977, can be of several different types. These programs are intended to supplement state and local programs and many are of an advisory or technical nature. Some, however, can provide either financial assistance, direct assistance (i.e. the drilling of wells), or supplemental commodities to replace those damaged or destroyed by drought.

Most federal financial assistance available requires some form of disaster designation, either by an agency administrator, the department secretary, or the President. The different levels of designation can make available increasing levels of assistance.

While specific requirements for the different federal programs vary, a key step in the process of securing assistance is notification to the local offices of the federal agencies. They cooperate with other local officials to verify that actual losses are resulting from emergency conditions and begin the process of securing emergency declarations.

Both state and local government play roles in the securing of a federal natural disaster designation. County Emergency Boards assess impacts on the local agricultural and business communities and prepare "situation reports" which are submitted to the county emergency management agency and Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) or, when activated, the State Emergency Operations Center (EOC) to begin the process of securing of a disaster declaration. County Emergency Services/Management departments can declare local states of emergency and make requests for further assistance from both the state and federal governments. Both bodies help provide the necessary verification of actual losses due to drought.

## V. SPECIFIC AGENCY ACTIONS

This section lists and describes individual state agency actions as they pertain to drought. The activities are organized generally in a time-sequence format to show how the agencies would actually react to potential drought conditions. Many agencies are conducting ongoing activities (such as water right adjudication) which will better prepare them should a drought occur. These activities are also highlighted in this section. The other phases detail actual responses which agencies could make during a drought and follow-up activities which might be undertaken once a drought period has ended.

### A. ONGOING ACTIVITIES AND PREPARATION

#### 1. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

- a. Keep apprised of water supply conditions throughout the state. Be prepared to convene the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) even in advance of the occurrence of drought conditions.
- b. Convene and chair EWEC in annual reviews of the Drought Contingency Plan to ensure it remains current and accurately reflects agency duties and responsibilities.
- c. Convene and chair EWEC as needed and/or when requested to by Ecology based upon: 1) the advice of the Water Supply Availability Committee that water supply conditions for one or more areas within the state for the upcoming season will likely be below 75 percent of normal, and 2) Ecology's proposal to issue orders in accordance with the provisions of RCW 43.83B.405. EWEC will determine if the water shortages will result in undue hardships being incurred, providing the second test for the determination of "drought conditions."

**Comment [R11]:** Obviously this has not been practiced, at least recently.

#### 2. DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

- a. Maintain the State Drought Contingency Plan by performing periodic updates with consultation with other state agencies, and maintaining a current list of drought contacts within the agencies involved.
- b. Chair Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC) meetings.
- c. Maintain direct communications with drought-prone irrigation districts and agricultural organizations.

- d. Administer the Agricultural Water Supply Facilities fund. Ecology should encourage projects that will improve water use efficiency during periods of water supply shortages when considering applications for these funds.
- e. Continue to conduct adjudications of claims to water rights. Areas where water right conflicts often arise should be adjudicated to provide managers with the definitive tools for managing the water resource. Ecology should identify areas with either existing or potential unresolved water right conflicts and give outreach and technical assistance on the availability of crop insurance and types of coverage. The crop insurance program, once maintained by the federal government, has been privatized and is operated as a uniform program by private insurance carriers.
- f. Examine statutes governing water rights within Washington and other states to identify, and initiate where appropriate, modifications to our RCW or WAC that would result in benefits during periods of water shortage.
- g. Compile up-to-date information on agricultural water conservation and make it available to irrigation districts and agricultural organizations.
- h. Encourage the use of an irrigation water-scheduling program in conjunction with the Cooperative Extension to assist irrigators in meeting their water needs by applying new water management practices. Monitor the demand by farmers for such a water scheduling service, analyze its effectiveness in achieving water savings and better water utilization, and be prepared to expand the program if required.
- i. Establish a statewide ground water monitoring network similar to the stream-gauging program operated primarily by the USGS. This network would be used to determine general water use and water availability trends. It would also be suitable for more intensive monitoring for drought-specific concerns during times of below average water supplies. Wells in coastal aquifers, which may be susceptible to salt water intrusion, could be closely monitored during water short years when water tables are lowered. Ecology's Water Quality and Water Resources programs will monitor wells and identify problem areas.
- j. Adopt rules to protect instream flows and values.
- k. Develop, in conjunction with DOH and other appropriate agencies, a resource-monitoring program for tracking both supply resource levels and water utility consumption to assess the adequacy of conservation measures taken.
- l. Adopt and implement revised guidelines to facilitate the processing of new ground water applications.

m. Provide information on the status of applications for ground water rights to individual applicants as soon as possible so decisions on available options can be made.

3. MILITARY DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EMD)

a. Identify, in conjunction with state and local agencies, all local, state and federal financial, technical and physical (equipment) resources available for use to respond appropriately to the full range of drought-related emergencies. Inventory drought relief activities and programs applicable to local governments.

b. Maintain contact with state agencies and county Emergency Management departments to develop a list of emergency equipment that could be used in instances of drought.

c. Encourage individual preparedness for coping with various types of emergency conditions, including drought.

d. Determine what technical and financial assistance resources can be targeted specifically at drought-related impacts.

e. Ensure that local governments and community organizations receive accurate information about the drought, its expected impacts, and actions that can be taken to lessen or remedy drought-related impacts.

4. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

a. Develop and disseminate water conservation materials for public water supply systems.

b. Assist public water supply systems with the development of Water Shortage Response Plans. Assist those utilities, which already have plans in place to update them and keep them current.

c. Maintain updated drought information letter, to be disseminated during water shortage periods, which identifies the severity of the event and explains what state assistance is available to suppliers of water.

d. Maintain and update a list of conservation materials available to the public and water supply utilities.

- e. Maintain and update a bibliography of publications and contact persons concerned with water conservation.
- f. Join with other state agencies in developing drought/conservation/resource management bulletin(s) for persons interested in drinking water. This would serve as a communication device between DOH and utilities.
- g. Maintain and update a list of organizations that could assist DOH and others in promoting water conservation and other short-term curtailment and long-term resource management programs.
- h. Develop a model conservation program to include detailed guidelines (related to short-term curtailment and resource management) to be incorporated into the DOH water system plan handbook.
- i. Continue to work with Ecology in its development and implementation of the state water resources program, including a conservation component.
- j. Promote emergency response planning by utilities statewide. This includes promoting DOH's emergency water utility planning guidelines statewide, which include both general procedures for use in an emergency and long-term response planning.
- k. Compile a statewide water utility resource inventory, including information on utility water consumption, resource needs, and an identification of available resources.
- l. Develop procedures for coordination of state agency efforts where more than one user group and more than one state agency is involved in water resource issues so that the state's response to such issues is coordinated and unified.
- m. Develop a list of emergency equipment available to water utilities with water shortage problems.
- n. Develop DOH emergency drought response procedures to ensure consistent response by DOH staff.
- o. Update emergency water treatment and handling procedures for use by DOH staff.
- p. Develop local health department drought assistance program to provide guidance to local health departments regarding services that could be rendered to small water systems in a drought.

5. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- a. Monitor agricultural conditions throughout the state in cooperation with the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). Maintain contact with all the county extension offices to anticipate potential drought conditions and estimate possible impacts.
- b. Assist members of the agricultural community in identifying the availability of crop insurance and types of coverage in cooperation with the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA). Provide assistance with technical questions regarding specifics of crop insurance programs. The crop insurance program, once maintained by the federal government, has been privatized and is operated as a uniform program by private insurance carriers.
- c. Prepare requests from the Governor to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture for drought assistance.
- d. Prepare and disseminate, through the Agricultural Statistics Service, Washington Agri-Facts and Washington Crop Weather, publications, which provide relevant climatic and economic information to the agricultural community.

6. DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

- a. Develop or participate in programs to provide cost-share funds for fisheries-related improvements and/or water acquisitions, leases, and transfers, which result in the conservation of water and the reduction of drought-related impacts.
- b. Participate in sub-basin and watershed planning efforts to identify where low stream flows are a limiting factor to fish populations.
- c. Develop and maintain the Salmon and Steelhead Stock Inventory to identify the status and diversity of salmonids in streams throughout the state.
- d. Keep the Department of Ecology (Ecology) informed as to where salmonid stocks are depressed or critical so that metering of water withdrawals or other approved methods may be implemented to assure adequate streamflow is maintained.
- e. Review applications for new water rights and water right transfers to assess potential impacts on game and food fish and advise Ecology so that sufficient stream flow is maintained to support these populations.

f. Negotiate and maintain memorandums of understanding (MOU) with other agencies to address future drought response to protect fish and wildlife resources. (I.e. the development of the MOU with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife regarding bull trout passage in the Yakima Basin Reservoirs.)

g. Identify measures, which could be employed to preserve both fish and wildlife resources using emergency funding available for drought-affected areas as designated by Ecology.

7. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

a. Maintain channels of communications with other regulator agencies, forest users, and the public on the fire potential as well as the status of forest restrictions.

b. Provide long-term forecasts of forest conditions which will notify forest users well in advance of potential problems resulting from late-season water shortages and weather conditions which indicate a high fire potential.

8. EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

a. Monitor employment conditions statewide and identify possible areas of concern should drought conditions occur. These areas of concern could include forced plant closures, forest operations closures, and reduced demand for migrant workers.

9. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

a. Clarify and implement, in consultation with other responsible state and local agencies, any actions that will reduce the occurrence of water supply emergencies. Such actions include providing public information and education about: curtailing water use; possible hunting, camping, burning, and fireworks use restrictions; managing migrant worker programs; and identifying alternative water sources.

b. Identify, in conjunction with EWEC, essential actions which can be carried out in advance by local governments and community organizations to prepare for drought. Necessary training, equipment, and/or financial requirements to enable local entities to fulfill their responsibilities should be identified.

c. Conduct public information and educational activities to make local governments more aware of water supply conditions and possible remedies. Develop and conduct a series of regional workshops to be hosted jointly by the state and local governments. The workshops would be to share information,

identify emerging needs, assess local capabilities, and enlist local leaders in the statewide effort to conserve water and prudently manage drought-related impacts.

d. Enlist local governments and community leaders in the state's effort to initiate immediate voluntary conservation efforts by governments, agriculture operators, businesses, and individuals. Where necessary, provide training and equipment to local entities to monitor water usage, identify emerging critical needs, and respond to drought-related impacts.

e. Work with WSDA in coordinating with USDA Farm Service Agency and local programs.

f. Develop and emphasize energy conservation programs for the residential, commercial and irrigation communities, which will minimize water utilization in times of short supply.

g. Operate the Washington Energy Extension Service which provides technical assistance to water users regarding matters of efficient water use and energy conservation.

h. Encourage efficient use of energy by local governments, state agencies, and public schools, which can lessen increases in energy consumption.

i. Publish the Washington Irrigator, a newsletter which provides information and assistance to the agricultural community concerning efficient energy and water use.

j. Investigate the options of using alternative energy sources, such as coal and nuclear, as means of reducing hydropower demands during times of water shortage.

k. Anticipate energy issues, such as drought, which could adversely affect the state's economic climate and provide information as appropriate to local economic development organizations, the Economic Development Commission, and the Competitiveness Council.

#### 10. DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

a. Develop and coordinate plans for each state agency and other facilities to reduce their water use and electrical energy consumption by a specified amount.

- b. Have each state agency investigate achieving additional water savings through the purchase of water saving devices or the modification of existing facilities.
- c. Investigate means of achieving long-term electrical energy savings at state facilities through either improved efficiency or upgraded equipment.
- d. Identify possible funding sources for making improvements in water use and electrical energy consumption by state agencies.
- e. Develop and regularly update a means of measuring actual water savings at each state facility.

B. RESPONSE

1. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

- a. Convene and chair the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). Oversee the preparation, publication, and distribution of the Drought Action Program.
- b. Review and, if appropriate, approve in writing proposed Ecology orders designating areas suffering from "drought conditions" and implementing emergency water rights processing procedures and releasing emergency agricultural water supply funds.
- c. Establish a high priority for all state agencies to assist in drought-related efforts and support the work of EWEC.
- d. Exercise emergency powers when warranted. Consider whether an appropriate declaration of emergency will make assistance available, which otherwise would not be.
- e. Authorize emergency expenditures for measures for which no appropriations have been made. This can be done when an agency head requests such an expenditure and the governor determines that it is necessary for the "preservation of peace, health or safety, or for the carrying on of the necessary work required by law..."
- f. Request EWEC to determine a list of potential forms of assistance that could be provided to the state by the federal government and be prepared to request such assistance if the drought continues.

- g. Publicly urge all citizens, businesses, and industries to comply with the provisions of the Drought Action Program.
- h. Publicly address any potential for high fire danger during drought periods and emphasize the potential for forest closures. Urge caution by all forest users to minimize hazard.
- i. Direct the Washington State Patrol to increase its emphasis on enforcement of existing laws regarding the disposal of burning material from vehicles.
- j. Encourage other levels of government to seriously address potential drought problems. Encourage cooperation between different levels of government in the resolution and mitigation of any problems encountered.

## 2. DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

- a. Continue to chair meetings of the Water Supply Availability Committee.
- b. Chair the Public Information and Education Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). Coordinate the preparation of the public information and education section of the Drought Action Program.
- c. Serve as a member of the Agriculture; Economic Impacts; Municipal/Domestic Supply; Public Information and Education; and the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance task forces.
- d. Implement the provisions of RCW 43.83B.400 -.420 relating to drought relief, including the following:
  - i. Identify those areas of the state where water supplies are less than 75% of normal and undue hardships are being encountered due to lack of water. Consult with members of the Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC) and EWEC as to whether orders implementing emergency water rights provisions for those areas should be issued. Secure the written approval of the Governor to issue such orders.
  - ii. Issue orders, with the consent of WSAC and EWEC, and the written approval of the Governor, implementing rules authorizing temporary withdrawals of public waters and temporary transfers of water rights. These orders would also waive State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and publication requirements, which are a part of the normal water rights application process.

- iii. Publish orders in newspapers of general circulation in the areas designated as suffering from drought.
- e. Keep utilities informed of current water supply conditions, knowledge gained from previous droughts, short-term resource curtailment activities, long-term resource management planning techniques, and record keeping. This could be done in cooperation with DOH. Possible vehicles include newsletters or workshops.
- f. Regulate existing water rights. Ecology can regulate existing junior water right holders on a stream or within a groundwater basin to ensure that senior right holders receive the full measure of their right. Similarly, where minimum streamflows have been set, Ecology can regulate those rights that were issued after the setting of the flow levels.
- g. Effect temporary and permanent water right transfers. Current state law allows for the transfer of water rights to others when the transfer can be accomplished without detriment to any existing water rights. Normally these applications are processed as ordinary water right applications, but processing during drought periods can be expedited under the rules adopted to implement the 1988 drought legislation.
- h. Provide technical assistance on potential new sources of water where known.
  - i. Issue temporary water rights. Ecology can issue temporary water right permits for development of supplemental water supplies to be used for limited periods to offset anticipated shortages from normal sources. These can include the drilling of wells; the installation of alternative diversion, conveyance, or storage facilities; and other development activities, which normally require the securing of a permit through the normal application and review process. Applications for temporary water rights will be subject to review by WDFW and subject to established instream flows.
  - j. Waive State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requirements for new temporary water rights. Most applications for water rights are specifically exempted from review under the SEPA rules. However, SEPA review of applications for amounts of water greater than the exemption are also waived under the provisions of RCW 43.83B.410.
  - k. Waive public notice requirements for new temporary water rights. New applications for water rights must normally be advertised in local newspapers for a specified period to allow anyone who feels that the proposed project might impinge on their rights to protest the application. Orders issued under the

Comment [R12]: Is this accurate?

provisions of RCW 43.83B.410 allow this public notification process to be waived to permit the timely development of the temporary water supply.

- l. Provide prompt review of applications for supplemental irrigation wells. Applications for supplemental sources of water must be reviewed prior to approval in the same manner as applications for primary rights. In areas designated as suffering from drought conditions, prompt review of such applications is required to ensure that, if no significant interference with existing wells can be determined, the well can be drilled and utilized more quickly.
- m. Administer drought relief grant and loan program. Ecology administers Emergency Withdrawal and Facilities funds for drought relief under the terms of RCW 43.83B.415. These funds become available once an area has been designated as suffering from drought conditions. The funds can be used to improve conveyance and distribution systems, which result in net savings of water.
- n. Increase the monitoring of drought-related water quality impacts, through Ecology's Water Quality Program, to identify problems, which might pose a threat to humans, fish, or habitat before they become critical. Ecology should intensify monitoring of sensitive water bodies such as lakes and streams to identify specific areas of concern when water levels are lowered.
- o. Institute higher levels of control on municipal and industrial discharges to preserve water quality for fish and other uses. On regulated streams, request release of water from regulating structures if possible to achieve the same results. Possible additional options to preserve water quality include disposal of waste products by means other than discharging them into a water body, or augmenting the water supply from another source.
- p. Provide continuous flow of informational and educational materials for use by the print and electronic media to inform the public. Provide drought information on the Web for both the media and the public. Public information activities constitute a major component of the state's response to drought. As the chair of WSAC, member of EWEC, and as the state water resources agency, Ecology is the appropriate lead agency for the public information and education program as it relates to drought conditions and state responses.
- q. Respond to complaints of well interference and take action as necessary.
- r. Adopt guidelines for: (1) temporary transfers of water between willing parties who are not within irrigation districts, and (2) water spreading to allow the same amount of water to be consumptively used on a greater number of acres.

s. Monitor and enforce adopted instream flow provisions.

3. MILITARY DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EMD)

a. Locate and when necessary obtain, in conjunction with state and local agencies, all local, state, and federal financial, technical, and physical (equipment) resources available to respond appropriately to the full range of drought-related emergencies.

b. Coordinate state agency resources used to respond to drought-related emergencies to the non-agricultural community when the Emergency Operations Center is activated. Coordinate support for the needs of local governments as well as state agencies encountering drought problems. The staffs of state agencies form a body of experts that can be assigned to help solve specific drought-related problems and issues.

c. Identify, in conjunction with EWEC, essential actions to be carried out by local governments and community organizations. Identify training, equipment, and/or financial requirements to enable local entities to carry out their responsibilities.

d. Coordinate fire-fighting activities on state-owned lands with DNR. Coordinate fire suppression activities, through the Fire Protection Service Division, for all other areas throughout the state except state and federally owned forestlands.

4. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

a. Chair the Domestic/Municipal Supply Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). Oversee preparation of the domestic/municipal supply component of the Drought Action Program for EWEC.

b. Administer drought relief funding program for public water supply systems. Identify other state and federal funding sources available for utility drought-related projects and impacts, and make funding available as appropriate. Develop and prioritize a list of drought-related improvement projects that could be funded if sufficient grant money were available. Develop a list of drought-related water utility emergency equipment that could be funded if grant money were available.

c. Participate, in cooperation with Ecology, in periodic conservation workshops across the state to inform utilities of current water supply conditions, knowledge gained from previous droughts, short-term resource curtailment activities, long-term resource management planning techniques, and record keeping.

- d. Develop drought-related news releases for radio and newspapers.
- e. Conduct educational seminars for news media interested in tracking the drought situation.
- f. Continue to provide engineering and water quality technical assistance to utilities seeking assistance.
- g. Monitor wells in coastal areas where salt-water intrusion may occur due to reduced groundwater supplies. Coordinate with Ecology to identify problem areas and develop possible remedial measures.
- h. Develop and implement resource-monitoring program for tracking both supply resource levels and water utility consumption.
- i. Poll, if necessary, all systems with more than 100 service connections to identify the impacts of the drought on water supply systems.

5. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

- a. Chair the Agriculture Task Force which prepares a Drought Action Program for the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC).
- b. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts and the Public Information and Education task forces.
- c. Intensify monitoring of agricultural conditions throughout the state. Contact all the county USDA Farm Service Agency offices to produce estimates of impacts of drought conditions.
- d. Coordinate state and federal resources to respond to drought-related impacts within the agricultural community.
- e. Prepare and disseminate specific drought-related information to the agricultural community, EWEC, and the media.

6. DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

- a. Activate regional drought monitoring/action reporting protocol to track stream flows, drought severity, and potential impacts to fish, wildlife, and agency facilities.
- b. Serve as a member of the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC).

- c. Act as chair of the Fish and Wildlife Task Force.
- d. Serve as a member of the Wildfire and Forest Closures Task Force, the Agriculture Task Force, Economic Impacts Task Force, the Energy Task Force, the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force, and the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force.
- e. Seek emergency funding to implement identified measures to protect agency facilities and fish and wildlife resources in areas with designated drought conditions.
- f. Ensure that drought-related protection measures do not result in an unauthorized take of fish and wildlife protected under the Endangered Species Act.
- g. Assess and implement temporary changes as needed to the Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) permit program consistent with the provisions of RCW 43.83B.410.
- h. Monitor for and respond to disease problems as they occur. Agency fish pathology experts should frequently consult with individual hatchery personnel to address such problems.
- i. Protect freshwater and marine fish habitat and prevent fish mortality during drought conditions, including:
  - i. Augment instream flows through acquisitions, temporary augmentation with groundwater, or leases and/or transfers of surface and groundwater rights.
  - ii. Work with water managers on controlled streams to assure adequate and proper consideration is given to fish needs. Try to reach agreements, which will minimize water-use conflicts and impacts on fish and wildlife resources during drought conditions.
  - iii. Monitor streams for potential fish barriers and implement actions as necessary to provide for fish passage. Channel modifications (such as trenching, sandbagging, or berming), temporary fishways, trapping and hauling, or other alternatives may be implemented to provide for fish passage.

**Comment [DoE3]:** Is this only for WDFW actions or do they have some capacity to assure this is complied with by other agency actions?

- iv. Monitor water quality and, as needed, develop and encourage water quality improvement measures such as recommending increased stream flows on regulated waters, recommending or negotiating temporary variances in wastewater discharges, or acquiring water. Where necessary, implement rescue operations to relocate fish from lakes and reservoirs suffering poor water quality or drawn down.
- j. Prioritize and implement programs to sustain wildlife and protect the public and private property, including:
  - i. Implement an emergency winter feeding program when necessary to ensure the survival of wildlife and game. This includes determining and authenticating when emergency winter conditions will have seriously impact wildlife, and preparing a request for assistance to be forwarded through the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Upon approval, the Commodity Credit Corporation can provide certificates for surplus grain.
  - ii. Supply forage (hay) for big game animals to minimize damage to private agricultural crops, particularly during the winter following a drought.
  - iii. Manage Wildlife Areas to provide additional forage for wildlife as necessary, such as reducing grazing leases, especially on winter range.
  - iv. Fertilize range land to increase wildlife cover and forage during the following winter.
  - v. Increase capability to capture and relocate dangerous wildlife that may come in close proximity to the public in search of food or water, or to flee wildfires.
  - vi. Construct fences and other exclusion structures to restrict wildlife access in selected areas where property damage is likely.
- k. Prioritize and implement actions to protect water sources for fish and wildlife, including:
  - i. Where needed, temporarily impound or divert water to critical habitats or to upland watering devices
  - ii. Protect natural water sources by fencing and other infrastructure, such as piping and stock tanks, to provide water while preventing damage to sources

- iii. Manage agency surface and ground water appropriations to minimize adverse impacts of the drought on fish and wildlife.
- I. Prioritize and implement drought response projects at fish hatcheries, fishways, and rearing facilities to protect fish during drought conditions. Projects may include:
  - i. Installation of water re-use pumps where expected needs exist.
  - ii. Drilling new wells for temporary use, or deepen existing wells to maintain water supply.
  - iii. Modify stream channels or make use of temporary fish collection weirs as necessary to ensure fish passage to hatcheries.
  - iv. Modify hatchery water intake and outlet structures to minimize drought impacts to water supplies.
  - v. Minimize drought-related problems by modifying hatchery operations, such as reducing fish density, transferring fish to another facility, or implementing early fish releases.
  - vi. Modify fishways to efficiently pass fish during low flow conditions.
  - vii. Manage dissolved oxygen levels in holding and rearing ponds with the use of bottled gas, oxygen generator systems, or mechanical aeration.
- m. Protect wildlife area habitat and forage from wildfires by measures such as constructing firebreaks or providing water for fire suppression in critical areas not protected by the Department of Natural Resources.

7. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- a. Chair the Wildfire and Forest Closures Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). Guide the preparation of the forest closures component of the Drought Action Program for EWEC.
- b. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force and the Public Information and Education Task Force.
- c. Assess the need for closing of forestlands while considering both economic and social values.

- d. Monitor the potential for escaped forest fires on Washington's 12.5 million acres of private and state forestlands. In conjunction with local, state, and federal agencies and forest users, regulate burning, logging and other forest uses to minimize the threat of forest fires.
- e. Provide public information and education, e.g. public service announcements detailing forest conditions, types of activities permitted and prohibited, expected duration of any closures, etc.
- f. Aggressively attack all wildland fires that threaten Department-protected forestland until the fire no longer is a threat to life and property. Fires up to 9.9 acres will be extinguished completely.

8. EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

- a. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee.
- b. Monitor impacts on employment resulting from any drought occurrence. Potential areas of concern include forced plant closures, forest operations closures and reduced demand for migrant workers.
- c. Identify means of ameliorating the drought-related impacts on employment. Determine what assistance programs can be used to help those adversely affected by drought conditions.
- d. Work with CTED to coordinate state assistance in instances of threatened and actual plant closures resulting from drought-caused shortages.
- e. Administer programs, in cooperation with DOH and CTED, to assist communities, which have been placed under long-term stress as a result of drought.
- f. Utilize Shared Work program to minimize short-term effects of drought on local businesses.
- g. Provide relief programs such as entrepreneurial and vocational training to assist individuals who have been either dislocated or become unemployed as a consequence of severe drought and have little opportunity to resume previous occupations.

9. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- a. Chair the Business, Employment and Community Assistance Task Force, which reports to the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC).
- b. Chair the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC. Coordinate preparation of the economic impact component of the Drought Action Program for EWEC.
- c. Chair the Energy Task Force when convened by EWEC. Coordinate preparation of the energy component of the Drought Action Program for EWEC.
- d. Work with the Employment Security Department to coordinate state assistance in instances of threatened and actual plant closures resulting from drought-caused shortages.
- e. Conduct public information and educational activities to make local governments more aware of water supply conditions and possible remedies. Develop and conduct a series of regional workshops to share information, identify emerging needs, assess local capabilities, and enlist local leaders in an effort to promote water conservation to minimize drought-related impacts. Both state and local governments would assist in this effort.
- f. Prepare and disseminate drought information packets, in conjunction with EWEC, targeted at local governments, special purpose districts and community organizations.
- g. Identify strategies for conserving water in specific water dependent industries, including sources of financing for improvements to plants and equipment, and disseminate information to businesses.
- h. Develop a strategy to counteract drought as a potential negative impact on the state's image as an investment location.
- i. Monitor the economic impacts of drought on industries heavily reliant on available water, adequate electric power, or supplies of materials that are directly affected by the drought. This includes industries such as agriculture, forest products, food processing, aluminum, chemicals, petroleum refining, etc.
- j. Monitor the economic impacts on other activities, such as tourism, that may be affected by drought. For example, forest closures could preclude recreational opportunities, state and private parks could experience water supply problems, lower stream flows could impact river rafting and whitewater recreation, lower lake levels could cause problems of access to water, water quality could become a problem, etc.

k. Share information with federal and private sector organizations that are monitoring drought impacts. Coordinate impact monitoring efforts and share information with neighboring states and provinces.

l. Participate in series of regional workshops to be hosted jointly by the state and local governments. The workshops will be to share information, identify emerging needs, assess local capabilities, and enlist local leaders in the statewide effort to conserve water and prudently manage drought-related impacts.

m. Provide drought-related information to the state's economic development community, trade-oriented organizations, business and industry associations, the Competitiveness Council, and the Economic Development Commission.

n. Maintain communications with the Washington State University Energy Extension Service and electric utilities that provide technical assistance to energy consumers regarding the efficient use of energy.

o. Provide technical assistance to large consumers of electricity and various trade organizations to facilitate continued operations while reducing energy consumption.

p. Invoke energy supply emergency procedures as prescribed in Chapter 43.21G RCW as necessary, including:

i. Provide advice to the governor's office on ways to bring new generation on line quickly and to reduce energy consumption.

ii. Oversee public information efforts on energy savings and cost reduction programs.

iii. Encourage efficient energy use by local governments, state agencies, and public schools.

iv. Encourage implementation of utility programs to reduce energy consumption, maintain low costs, bring new generation on line quickly, and conduct rolling blackouts in a fair and least-disruptive manner.

q. Review regional efforts to respond to energy problems caused by the drought.

10. DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

a. Implement plans for reduction of water use by each state agency.

- b. Assist each agency to achieve savings of water.
- c. Implement plans to reduce electrical energy consumption by each state agency and facility.
- d. Assist each agency to achieve energy savings.

C. RECOVERY AND EVALUATION

1. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

- a. Assist in the development of legislation, which will lessen impacts of future drought occurrences.
- b. Chair the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) review of effectiveness of the Drought Action Program and assessment of need for improvements to the Drought Contingency Plan.

2. DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

- a. Obtain information and suggestions from cities, irrigation districts, and agricultural organizations about drought-related problems they encountered and how they were approached.
- b. Implement any appropriate water use efficiency measures, which require no legislative action. Such elements might include development of recommendations for permanent policies, procedures, and guidelines for temporary and permanent water right transfers between willing parties, as well as activities such as water banking and water marketing.
- c. Assess the need for, and availability of, Conservation Corps personnel and other staff resources to assist various public agencies to better respond to future requests for drought assistance.
- d. Assess the need for, and availability of, other forms of state assistance that might be successfully utilized in future droughts.

3. MILITARY DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EMD)

- a. Identify all actions, which may need to be implemented in response to drought-related emergencies. Assign responsibility for implementing actions

and—as warranted and available—distribute resources to the responsible state and local agencies.

b. Determine the extent of physical property damages and/or severe production losses resulting from drought. Assess, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture, the need for a declaration of disaster by the Governor. Communicate findings concerning the extent of damages and any disaster declaration to the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA).

4. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH

a. Consult with water suppliers to determine if drought related problems persist or they can resume normal operations.

b. Review statewide water utility regulations such as from the State Board of Health, Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), and Ecology water right requirements to determine if they can be amended to be more effective during a drought.

c. Update the list of utilities which experienced problems as a result of the drought and are likely to encounter difficulties during future droughts.

5. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

a. Assist the State Military Department Emergency Management Division (EMD) in assessing the availability of state, federal, and local drought relief programs for the agricultural community.

b. Assess the severity of drought for both dryland and irrigated agriculture.

c. Cooperate with USDA Farm Service Agency to provide financial assistance using funds from a disaster loan program to help family and part-time farmers who have been adversely affected by causes beyond their control, such as drought.

6. DEPARTMENT OF FISH AND WILDLIFE

a. Identify problem areas and assess what future actions would help alleviate the problems encountered, including:

i. Evaluate the efficiency of the various drought responses implemented and their benefits to fish and wildlife.

- ii. Evaluate the effectiveness of intra- and intergovernmental communication, cooperation, and organization during drought response and explore possible improvements.
- iii. Evaluate effective procedures and protocols in acquiring funding opportunities for future droughts.
- iv. Assess the need for future changes in the emergency wildlife feeding programs to enhance their effectiveness.

7. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES

- a. Permit the gradual and orderly resumption of normal forest activities as drought conditions subside without unduly jeopardizing forest resources.
- b. Take appropriate measures, such as building water bars to reduce erosion on fire lines, to minimize long-term effects of drought-caused wildfires and prevent secondary effects, such as increased erosion and landslides, from occurring.
- c. Review fire suppression, forest closures and other drought-caused activities with other regulator agencies, forest users and the general public to determine their general effectiveness. Propose changes which would increase effectiveness in dealing with future drought occurrences.

8. EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT

- a. Provide guidance, through the Job Service Centers, regarding training and assistance programs available to those whose employment status has changed as the result of drought.
- b. Provide relief programs such as entrepreneurial and vocational training to assist individuals who have been either dislocated or become unemployed as a consequence of severe drought and have little opportunity to resume previous occupations.
- c. Utilize Shared Work program to minimize short-term effects of drought on local businesses.

9. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT

- a. Review with local governments the types of water supply problems encountered and possible solutions which would lessen future drought-caused impacts.
- b. Collaborate on the production of statewide public information spots, interviews and announcements for use by the print and electronic media (radio/television).
- c. Provide assistance to drought-affected businesses through available Business Assistance Programs.
- d. Make the business community aware of available assistance through participation in public information campaign.
- e. Summarize drought impacts in conjunction with the state agencies and the Economic Impacts Task Force.
- f. Review energy conservation programs to see if they might be modified to produce greater savings.
- g. Lift any emergency energy restrictions imposed as hydropower supplies return to normal.
- h. Review energy producers' and consumers' efforts to reduce energy consumption to determine if improvements can be made.

10. DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION

- a. Evaluate and revise plans for water use and electrical energy reductions by each state agency. Determine if additional savings can be achieved for future drought occurrences.

## VI. IMPLEMENTATION OF THE DROUGHT CONTINGENCY PLAN

A. Incorporate the Drought Contingency Plan as Annex Z2 to the Washington State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan. The individual agency Standard Operating Procedures (SOPs) which support the State Comprehensive Emergency Management Plan will require modification to reflect their responsibilities under the drought plan.

B. Each state agency on the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) should also develop internal drought procedures to guide their individual agency responses during future droughts. This plan and all procedures shall be reviewed by EWEC (or a designated subgroup) to ensure that individual agency efforts are properly coordinated. Agencies should consider actions which can be conducted on an ongoing basis which would help to alleviate future drought impacts.

C. Affected state agencies should adopt rules as necessary to implement the provisions of RCW 43.83B.400 through 420, the state drought legislation.

D. State agencies should develop the means to readily access information on both state and federal assistance programs. At least one agency, perhaps the State Library, should subscribe to the Federal Assistance Programs Retrieval System (FAPRS). This computerized system provides information about Federal grants, loans, insurance, training, and other assistance programs. It includes the information in the Federal Office of Management and Budget/General Services Administration (OMB/GSA) Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance, which can be queried in several different ways. A similar system could possibly be developed on the state level as well.

E. The members of EWEC should be convened as necessary, but at the minimum annually, by the Governor to review changes in agency organization, responsibilities, and activities. The plan should be modified to incorporate any changes. Assistance programs should be reviewed and updated if necessary. The plan should also be modified to reflect any legislatively mandated changes.

F. Following any drought-related efforts instigated by EWEC, the Committee shall assess the suitability of the drought responses and the need for any changes to this drought contingency plan.

G. Any drought-related legislation necessary to implement portions of the drought contingency plan should be drafted and submitted to the Legislature.

## APPENDIX A

### MEMBERS OF THE WATER SUPPLY AVAILABILITY COMMITTEE

#### CORE MEMBERS

Washington State Department of Ecology (Chair)

U.S. Geological Survey

National Weather Service

Soil Conservation Service

U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Bonneville Power Administration

#### USER MEMBERS

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife

Washington Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development

Washington Department of Agriculture

Washington Department of Natural Resources

Washington Department of Health

Washington Office of Financial Management

## APPENDIX B

### MEMBERS OF THE EXECUTIVE WATER EMERGENCY COMMITTEE

#### STATE AGENCIES

Governor's Office (Chair)

Agriculture

Community, Trade, and Economic  
Development

Ecology

Employment Security

Fish and Wildlife

Health

Natural Resources

Office of Financial Management

#### FEDERAL AGENCIES

Bureau of Reclamation

Army Corps of Engineers

Bonneville Power Administration

#### OTHER

Affected Tribes

Cooperative Extension

## APPENDIX C

### DROUGHT TASK FORCES AND MEMBERSHIP

#### Agriculture:

Washington Department of Agriculture (Chair); Washington Departments of Ecology, and Fish and Wildlife; and Tribes, individuals, and agricultural organizations that are concerned about drought and water transfer-related topics.

#### Business, Employment, and Community Assistance:

Washington Department of Community, trade, and economic development (Chair); and Washington Departments of Agriculture; Ecology; Employment Security; Fish and Wildlife; and Health.

#### Economic Impacts:

Washington Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (Chair); Revenue Forecast Council; Washington Departments of Agriculture, Ecology, Employment Security, Fish and Wildlife, Natural Resources, and Revenue; and affected Tribes.

#### Energy:

Washington Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (Chair); Bonneville Power Administration; U.S. Army Corps of Engineers; Washington Departments of Ecology, and Fish and Wildlife; Emergency Management Division, and affected Tribes.

#### Fish and Wildlife:

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (Chair), Washington Departments of Agriculture, Ecology, and Natural Resources, and affected Tribes.

#### Municipal/Domestic Supply:

Washington Department of Health (Chair), Washington Departments of Ecology, Fish and Wildlife, and Community, Trade, and Economic Development; Thurston County Health Department; and selected major municipal water suppliers from around the state.

Public Information and Education:

Washington Department of Ecology (Chair), Washington Department of Agriculture, Washington Farm Bureau, and Washington State University Cooperative Extension, selected major municipal water departments from around the state.

Recreation and Tourism

Washington State Parks and Recreation Commission and the Department of Community, trade, and economic development (co-chairs); Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife; and the Interagency Committee for Outdoor Recreation.

Wildfire and Forest Closures:

Washington Department of Natural Resources (Chair), Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife, the Pack Forest, the U.S. Forest Service and the Washington Forest Protection Association.

APPENDIX D

**DROUGHT RESPONSIBILITIES AND ACTIVITIES BY AGENCY**

## 1. GOVERNOR'S OFFICE

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Convene and chair the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) as needed and/or when requested to by Ecology based upon the advice of the Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC) that water supply conditions for one or more areas within the state for the upcoming season are likely to be below 75 percent of normal. The EWEC will determine if the water shortages will result in undue hardships being incurred, providing the second test for the determination of "drought conditions."
- b. Review water supply information and, if necessary, provide written approval for Ecology to issue regulatory orders declaring droughts in identified geographical areas under the provisions of RCW 43.83B.405.
- c. Proclaim a state of emergency, and review and submit requests for federal assistance when both state and local efforts prove insufficient to cope with drought emergencies.

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Keep apprised of water supply conditions throughout the state. Be prepared to convene the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) even in advance of the occurrence of drought conditions.
- b. Convene and chair EWEC in annual reviews of the Drought Contingency Plan to ensure it remains current and accurately reflects agency duties and responsibilities.
- c. Convene and chair EWEC as needed and/or when requested to by Ecology based upon: 1) the advice of the Water Supply Availability Committee that water supply conditions for one or more areas within the state for the upcoming season will likely be below 75 percent of normal, and 2) Ecology's proposal to issue orders in accordance with the provisions of RCW 43.83B.405. EWEC will determine if the water shortages will result in undue hardships being incurred, providing the second test for the determination of "drought conditions."

**Comment [R14]:** Obviously this has not been practiced, at least recently.

### RESPONSE

- a. Convene and chair the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). Oversee the preparation, publication, and distribution of the Drought Action Program.
- b. Review and, if appropriate, approve in writing proposed Ecology orders designating areas suffering from "drought conditions" and implementing emergency water rights processing procedures and releasing emergency agricultural water supply funds.

- c. Establish a high priority for all state agencies to assist in drought-related efforts and support the work of EWEC.
- d. Exercise emergency powers when warranted. Consider whether an appropriate declaration of emergency will make assistance available, which otherwise would not be.
- e. Authorize emergency expenditures for measures for which no appropriations have been made. This can be done when an agency head requests such an expenditure and the governor determines that it is necessary for the "preservation of peace, health or safety, or for the carrying on of the necessary work required by law..."
- f. Request EWEC to determine a list of potential forms of assistance that could be provided to the state by the federal government and be prepared to request such assistance if the drought continues.
- g. Publicly urge all citizens, businesses, and industries to comply with the provisions of the Drought Action Program.
- h. Publicly address any potential for high fire danger during drought periods and emphasize the potential for forest closures. Urge caution by all forest users to minimize hazard.
- i. Direct the Washington State Patrol to increase its emphasis on enforcement of existing laws regarding the disposal of burning material from vehicles.
- j. Encourage other levels of government to seriously address potential drought problems. Encourage cooperation between different levels of government in the resolution and mitigation of any problems encountered.

#### RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Assist in the development of legislation, which will lessen impacts of future drought occurrences.
- b. Chair the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC) review of effectiveness of the Drought Action Program and assessment of need for improvements to the Drought Contingency Plan.

## 2. DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY (Ecology)

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Maintain the State Drought Contingency Plan by performing periodic updates with consultation with other state agencies, and maintaining a current list of drought contacts within the agencies involved.
- b. Conduct water resources planning activities, including basin planning, setting minimum instream flows, and other activities which permit the logical and orderly management and use of the resource.
- c. Administer the Agricultural Water Supply Facilities Program. Ecology regularly disburses funds to public bodies for the upgrading and improvement of agricultural water supplies and delivery facilities. These funds can be used for projects that conserve water, improve water delivery efficiency, lessen canal and line losses, enhance fish passage, and other measures which have a direct benefit during periods of drought.
- d. Accept and investigate applications for new water rights, permitting such uses if sufficient water is available for the new use and no conflict with existing rights will result. Such new rights will be subject to regulation based upon any provisions contained in the permit, including minimum streamflow levels. This may include emergency water withdrawal authorizations during droughts.
- e. Process water right transfers. Current state law allows for the transfer of water rights to others when the transfer can be accomplished without detriment to any existing water rights.
- f. Conduct adjudications of water right claims. Many claims to water rights exist in Washington which predate the state water code. The only vehicle for determining the validity of such claims is a general adjudication of water rights for a particular area. The existence of an adjudication decree provides a framework for regulation of water rights within a given drainage basin. Such a general adjudication is currently underway for the Yakima River Basin.
- g. Serve as chair of the Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC). The chairperson will serve as the principal WSAC contact with the Governor's Office, EWEC, Task Forces, Emergency Management Division (EMD), and other agencies concerned with drought matters.
- h. Serve as chair of the Public Information and Education Task Force when convened by EWEC during water shortages. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- i. Serve as a member of the Agriculture Task Force when convened by EWEC.

- j. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- k. Serve as a member of the Energy Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- l. Serve as a member of the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- m. Serve as a member of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- n. Serve as a member of the Fish and Wildlife Task Force when convened by EWEC.

#### ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Chair Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC) meetings.
- b. Maintain direct communications with drought-prone irrigation districts and agricultural organizations.
- c. Administer the Agricultural Water Supply Facilities fund. Ecology should encourage projects that will improve water use efficiency during periods of water supply shortages when considering applications for these funds.
- d. Continue to conduct adjudications of claims to water rights. Areas where water right conflicts often arise should be adjudicated to provide managers with the definitive tools for managing the water resource. Ecology should identify areas with either existing or potential unresolved water right conflicts and give outreach and technical assistance on the availability of crop insurance and types of coverage. The crop insurance program, once maintained by the federal government, has been privatized and is operated as a uniform program by private insurance carriers.
- e. Examine statutes governing water rights within Washington and other states to identify, and initiate where appropriate, modifications to our RCW or WAC that would result in benefits during periods of water shortage.
- f. Provide incentives for water conservation and efficient water use and, eliminate the disincentives which currently exist under state laws and regulations and current irrigation district policies (based on the results of the water use efficiency study).
- g. Compile up-to-date information on agricultural water conservation and make it available to irrigation districts and agricultural organizations.
- h. Encourage the use of an irrigation water-scheduling program in conjunction with the Cooperative Extension to assist irrigators in meeting their water needs by applying new water management practices. Monitor the demand by farmers for such a water scheduling

service, analyze its effectiveness in achieving water savings and better water utilization, and be prepared to expand the program if required.

- i. Establish a statewide ground water monitoring network similar to the stream-gauging program operated primarily by the USGS. This network would be used to determine general water use and water availability trends. It would also be suitable for more intensive monitoring for drought-specific concerns during times of below average water supplies. Wells in coastal aquifers, which may be susceptible to salt water intrusion, could be closely monitored during water short years when water tables are lowered. Ecology's Water Quality and Water Resources programs will monitor wells and identify problem areas.
- j. Adopt rules to protect instream flows and values.
- k. Develop, in conjunction with DOH and other appropriate agencies, a resource-monitoring program for tracking both supply resource levels and water utility consumption to assess the adequacy of conservation measures taken.
- l. Adopt and implement revised guidelines to facilitate the processing of new ground water applications.
- m. Provide information on the status of applications for ground water rights to individual applicants as soon as possible so decisions on available options can be made.

#### RESPONSE

- a. Continue to chair meetings of the Water Supply Availability Committee.
- b. Chair the Public Information and Education Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). Coordinate the preparation of the public information and education section of the Drought Action Program.
- c. Serve as a member of the Agriculture; Economic Impacts; Municipal/Domestic Supply; Public Information and Education; and the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance task forces.
- d. Implement the provisions of RCW 43.83B.400 -.420 relating to drought relief, including the following:
  - i. Identify those areas of the state where water supplies are less than 75% of normal and undue hardships are being encountered due to lack of water. Consult with members of the Water Supply Availability Committee (WSAC) and EWEC as to whether orders implementing emergency water rights provisions for those areas should be issued. Secure the written approval of the Governor to issue such orders.

ii. Issue orders, with the consent of WSAC and EWEC, and the written approval of the Governor, implementing rules authorizing temporary withdrawals of public waters and temporary transfers of water rights. These orders would also waive State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) and publication requirements, which are a part of the normal water rights application process.

iii. Publish orders in newspapers of general circulation in the areas designated as suffering from drought.

e. Keep utilities informed of current water supply conditions, knowledge gained from previous droughts, short-term resource curtailment activities, long-term resource management planning techniques, and record keeping. This could be done in cooperation with DOH. Possible vehicles include newsletters or workshops.

f. Regulate existing water rights. Ecology can regulate existing junior water right holders on a stream or within a groundwater basin to ensure that senior right holders receive the full measure of their right. Similarly, where minimum streamflows have been set, Ecology can regulate those rights that were issued after the setting of the flow levels.

g. Effect temporary and permanent water right transfers. Current state law allows for the transfer of water rights to others when the transfer can be accomplished without detriment to any existing water rights. Normally these applications are processed as ordinary water right applications, but processing during drought periods can be expedited under the rules adopted to implement the 1988 drought legislation.

Comment [R15]: Is this accurate?

h. Provide technical assistance on potential new sources of water where known.

i. Issue temporary water rights. Ecology can issue temporary water right permits for development of supplemental water supplies to be used for limited periods to offset anticipated shortages from normal sources. These can include the drilling of wells; the installation of alternative diversion, conveyance, or storage facilities; and other development activities, which normally require the securing of a permit through the normal application and review process. Applications for temporary water rights will be subject to review by WDFW and subject to established instream flows.

j. Waive State Environmental Policy Act (SEPA) requirements for new temporary water rights. Most applications for water rights are specifically exempted from review under the SEPA rules. However, SEPA review of applications for amounts of water greater than the exemption are also waived under the provisions of RCW 43.83B.410.

k. Waive public notice requirements for new temporary water rights. New applications for water rights must normally be advertised in local newspapers for a specified period to

allow anyone who feels that the proposed project might impinge on their rights to protest the application. Orders issued under the provisions of RCW 43.83B.410 allow this public notification process to be waived to permit the timely development of the temporary water supply.

l. Provide prompt review of applications for supplemental irrigation wells. Applications for supplemental sources of water must be reviewed prior to approval in the same manner as applications for primary rights. In areas designated as suffering from drought conditions, prompt review of such applications is required to ensure that, if no significant interference with existing wells can be determined, the well can be drilled and utilized more quickly.

m. Administer drought relief grant and loan program. Ecology administers Emergency Withdrawal and Facilities funds for drought relief under the terms of RCW 43.83B.415. These funds become available once an area has been designated as suffering from drought conditions. The funds can be used to improve conveyance and distribution systems, which result in net savings of water.

n. Increase the monitoring of drought-related water quality impacts, through Ecology's Water Quality Program, to identify problems, which might pose a threat to humans, fish, or habitat before they become critical. Ecology should intensify monitoring of sensitive water bodies such as lakes and streams to identify specific areas of concern when water levels are lowered.

o. Institute higher levels of control on municipal and industrial discharges to preserve water quality for fish and other uses. On regulated streams, request release of water from regulating structures if possible to achieve the same results. Possible additional options to preserve water quality include disposal of waste products by means other than discharging them into a water body, or augmenting the water supply from another source.

p. Provide continuous flow of informational and educational materials for use by the print and electronic media to inform the public. Provide drought information on the Web for both the media and the public. Public information activities constitute a major component of the state's response to drought. As the chair of WSAC, member of EWEC, and as the state water resources agency, Ecology is the appropriate lead agency for the public information and education program as it relates to drought conditions and state responses.

q. Respond to complaints of well interference and take action as necessary.

r. Adopt guidelines for: (1) temporary transfers of water between willing parties who are not within irrigation districts, and (2) water spreading to allow the same amount of water to be consumptively used on a greater number of acres.

s. Monitor and enforce adopted instream flow provisions.

## RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Obtain information and suggestions from cities, irrigation districts, and agricultural organizations about drought-related problems they encountered and how they were approached.
- b. Implement any appropriate water use efficiency measures, which require no legislative action. Such elements might include development of recommendations for permanent policies, procedures, and guidelines for temporary and permanent water right transfers between willing parties, as well as activities such as water banking and water marketing.
- c. Assess the need for, and availability of, Conservation Corps personnel and other staff resources to assist various public agencies to better respond to future requests for drought assistance.
- d. Assess the need for, and availability of, other forms of state assistance that might be successfully utilized in future droughts.

### 3. MILITARY DEPARTMENT, EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT DIVISION (EMD)

#### RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Coordinate state assistance to individuals, communities, and local governments in response to drought conditions. General authority (not drought specific) for dealing with emergencies under chapter 38.52 RCW resides with the State Military Department.
- b. Serve as liaison between state, federal, and local agencies on matters pertaining to emergency preparedness and assistance.
- c. Serve as a member of the Energy Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee.
- d. Coordinate Fire Mobilization in conjunction with the Department of Natural Resources (DNR) and the Washington State Patrol (WSP).
- e. Assemble Situation Reports for emergencies and disasters with input from supporting agencies when the state Emergency Operations Center (EOC) has been activated on behalf of the state.

#### ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Identify, in conjunction with state and local agencies, all local, state and federal financial, technical and physical (equipment) resources available for use to respond appropriately to the full range of drought-related emergencies. Inventory drought relief activities and programs applicable to local governments.
- b. Maintain contact with state agencies and county Emergency Management departments to develop a list of emergency equipment that could be used in instances of drought.
- c. Encourage individual preparedness for coping with various types of emergency conditions, including drought.
- d. Determine what technical and financial assistance resources can be targeted specifically at drought-related impacts.
- e. Ensure that local governments and community organizations receive accurate information about the drought, its expected impacts, and actions that can be taken to lessen or remedy drought-related impacts.

#### RESPONSE

- a. Locate and when necessary obtain, in conjunction with state and local agencies, all local, state, and federal financial, technical, and physical (equipment) resources available to respond appropriately to the full range of drought-related emergencies.
- b. Coordinate state agency resources used to respond to drought-related emergencies to the non-agricultural community when the Emergency Operations Center is activated. Coordinate support for the needs of local governments as well as state agencies encountering drought problems. The staffs of state agencies form a body of experts that can be assigned to help solve specific drought-related problems and issues.
- c. Identify, in conjunction with EWEC, essential actions to be carried out by local governments and community organizations. Identify training, equipment, and/or financial requirements to enable local entities to carry out their responsibilities.
- d. Coordinate fire-fighting activities on state-owned lands with DNR. Coordinate fire suppression activities, through the Fire Protection Service Division, for all other areas throughout the state except state and federally owned forestlands.

#### RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Identify all actions, which may need to be implemented in response to drought-related emergencies. Assign responsibility for implementing actions and—as warranted and available—distribute resources to the responsible state and local agencies.
- b. Determine the extent of physical property damages and/or severe production losses resulting from drought. Assess, in cooperation with the Department of Agriculture, the need for a declaration of disaster by the Governor. Communicate findings concerning the extent of damages and any disaster declaration to the Farmers Home Administration (FmHA).

#### 4. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH (DOH)

##### RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Monitor water supply conditions for public water supply systems throughout the state.
- b. Provide technical assistance to utilities and local health departments on water shortage response planning and implementation.
- c. Serve as chair of the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- d. Serve as a member of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC.

##### ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Develop and disseminate water conservation materials for public water supply systems.
- b. Assist public water supply systems with the development of Water Shortage Response Plans. Assist those utilities, which already have plans in place to update them and keep them current.
- c. Maintain updated drought information letter, to be disseminated during water shortage periods, which identifies the severity of the event and explains what state assistance is available to suppliers of water.
- d. Maintain and update a list of conservation materials available to the public and water supply utilities.
- e. Maintain and update a bibliography of publications and contact persons concerned with water conservation.
- f. Join with other state agencies in developing drought/conservation/resource management bulletin(s) for persons interested in drinking water. This would serve as a communication device between DOH and utilities.
- g. Maintain and update a list of organizations that could assist DOH and others in promoting water conservation and other short-term curtailment and long-term resource management programs.

- h. Develop a model conservation program to include detailed guidelines (related to short-term curtailment and resource management) to be incorporated into the DOH water system plan handbook.
- i. Continue to work with Ecology in its development and implementation of the state water resources program, including a conservation component.
- j. Promote emergency response planning by utilities statewide. This includes promoting DOH's emergency water utility planning guidelines statewide, which include both general procedures for use in an emergency and long-term response planning.
- k. Compile a statewide water utility resource inventory, including information on utility water consumption, resource needs, and an identification of available resources.
- l. Develop procedures for coordination of state agency efforts where more than one user group and more than one state agency is involved in water resource issues so that the state's response to such issues is coordinated and unified.
- m. Develop a list of emergency equipment available to water utilities with water shortage problems.
- n. Develop DOH emergency drought response procedures to ensure consistent response by DOH staff.
- o. Update emergency water treatment and handling procedures for use by DOH staff.
- p. Develop local health department drought assistance program to provide guidance to local health departments regarding services that could be rendered to small water systems in a drought.

#### RESPONSE

- a. Chair the Domestic/Municipal Supply Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). Oversee preparation of the domestic/municipal supply component of the Drought Action Program for EWEC.
- b. Administer drought relief funding program for public water supply systems. Identify other state and federal funding sources available for utility drought-related projects and impacts, and make funding available as appropriate. Develop and prioritize a list of drought-related improvement projects that could be funded if sufficient grant money were available. Develop a list of drought-related water utility emergency equipment that could be funded if grant money were available.

- c. Participate, in cooperation with Ecology, in periodic conservation workshops across the state to inform utilities of current water supply conditions, knowledge gained from previous droughts, short-term resource curtailment activities, long-term resource management planning techniques, and record keeping.
- d. Develop drought-related news releases for radio and newspapers.
- e. Conduct educational seminars for news media interested in tracking the drought situation.
- f. Continue to provide engineering and water quality technical assistance to utilities seeking assistance.
- g. Monitor wells in coastal areas where salt-water intrusion may occur due to reduced groundwater supplies. Coordinate with Ecology to identify problem areas and develop possible remedial measures.
- h. Develop and implement resource-monitoring program for tracking both supply resource levels and water utility consumption.
- i. Poll, if necessary, all systems with more than 100 service connections to identify the impacts of the drought on water supply systems.

#### RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Consult with water suppliers to determine if drought related problems persist or they can resume normal operations.
- b. Review statewide water utility regulations such as from the State Board of Health, Utilities and Transportation Commission (UTC), and Ecology water right requirements to determine if they can be amended to be more effective during a drought.
- c. Update the list of utilities which experienced problems as a result of the drought and are likely to encounter difficulties during future droughts.

5. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE (WSDA)

RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Receive and compile situation reports related to agricultural difficulties from local departments of emergency management/services. (If the Emergency Operations Center is activated, this role may pass to EMD.)
- b. Prepare requests to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture for emergency declarations of a drought.
- c. Coordinate the federal, state, and local relief efforts for the agricultural community. This includes cooperating with other state and federal agencies to provide assistance, using funds from the Emergency Loan Program, to help family and part-time farmers who have been adversely affected by causes beyond their control, such as drought.
- d. Serve as chair of the Agriculture Task Force. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- e. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- f. Serve as a member of the Public Information and Education Task Force when convened by EWEC.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Monitor agricultural conditions throughout the state in cooperation with the USDA Farm Service Agency (FSA). Maintain contact with all the county extension offices to anticipate potential drought conditions and estimate possible impacts.
- b. Assist members of the agricultural community in identifying the availability of crop insurance and types of coverage in cooperation with the USDA Risk Management Agency (RMA). Provide assistance with technical questions regarding specifics of crop insurance programs. The crop insurance program, once maintained by the federal government, has been privatized and is operated as a uniform program by private insurance carriers.
- c. Prepare requests from the Governor to the U.S. Secretary of Agriculture for drought assistance.
- d. Prepare and disseminate, through the Agricultural Statistics Service, Washington Agri-Facts and Washington Crop Weather, publications, which provide relevant climatic and economic information to the agricultural community.

## RESPONSE

- a. Chair the Agriculture Task Force which prepares a Drought Action Program for the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC).
- b. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts and the Public Information and Education task forces.
- c. Intensify monitoring of agricultural conditions throughout the state. Contact all the county USDA Farm Service Agency offices to produce estimates of impacts of drought conditions.
- d. Coordinate state and federal resources to respond to drought-related impacts within the agricultural community.
- e. Prepare and disseminate specific drought-related information to the agricultural community, EWEC, and the media.

## RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Assist the State Military Department Emergency Management Division (EMD) in assessing the availability of state, federal, and local drought relief programs for the agricultural community.
- b. Assess the severity of drought for both dryland and irrigated agriculture.
- c. Cooperate with USDA Farm Service Agency to provide financial assistance using funds from a disaster loan program to help family and part-time farmers who have been adversely affected by causes beyond their control, such as drought.

6. DEPARTMENT OF FISH & WILDLIFE (WDFW)

RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Preserve, manage, and enhance the state's wildlife and the food fish, game fish, and shellfish in state fresh and offshore waters to protect the resources.
- b. Maintain the economic well being and stability of the fishing industry in the state.
- c. Regulate timing, location, quantity, and manner for the taking of wildlife and food fish, game fish, and shellfish throughout the state, including restricting harvest, to maintain viable populations.
- d. Maintain and enhance public recreational game fishing and hunting to maximize opportunities of all citizens, including juveniles, seniors, and the disabled.
- e. Operate fish hatcheries to increase populations of classified food and game fish species.
- f. Allocate fish resources among the various users.
- g. Preserve, protect and enhance habitat for classified game animals and fish and all unclassified fish and wildlife species.
- h. Serve as chair of the Fish and Wildlife Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as spokesperson for the Task Force.
- i. Serve as a member of the Wildfire and Forest Closures Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- j. Serve as a member of the Agriculture Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- k. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- l. Serve as a member of the Energy Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- m. Serve as a member of the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- n. Serve as a member of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Develop or participate in programs to provide cost-share funds for fisheries-related improvements and/or water acquisitions, leases, and transfers, which result in the conservation of water and the reduction of drought-related impacts.
- b. Participate in sub-basin and watershed planning efforts to identify where low stream flows are a limiting factor to fish populations.
- c. Develop and maintain the Salmon and Steelhead Stock Inventory to identify the status and diversity of salmonids in streams throughout the state.
- d. Keep the Department of Ecology (Ecology) informed as to where salmonid stocks are depressed or critical so that metering of water withdrawals or other approved methods may be implemented to assure adequate streamflow is maintained.
- e. Review applications for new water rights and water right transfers to assess potential impacts on game and food fish and advise Ecology so that sufficient stream flow is maintained to support these populations.
- f. Negotiate and maintain memorandums of understanding (MOU) with other agencies to address future drought response to protect fish and wildlife resources. (I.e. the development of the MOU with the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation and U.S. Fish and Wildlife regarding bull trout passage in the Yakima Basin Reservoirs.)
- g. Identify measures, which could be employed to preserve both fish and wildlife resources using emergency funding available for drought-affected areas as designated by Ecology.

#### RESPONSE

- a. Activate regional drought monitoring/action reporting protocol to track stream flows, drought severity, and potential impacts to fish, wildlife, and agency facilities.
- b. Serve as a member of the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC).
- c. Act as chair of the Fish and Wildlife Task Force.
- d. Serve as a member of the Wildfire and Forest Closures Task Force, the Agriculture Task Force, Economic Impacts Task Force, the Energy Task Force, the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force, and the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force.
- e. Seek emergency funding to implement identified measures to protect agency facilities and fish and wildlife resources in areas with designated drought conditions.

f. Ensure that drought-related protection measures do not result in an unauthorized take of fish and wildlife protected under the Endangered Species Act.

**Comment [DoE6]:** Is this only for WDFW actions or do they have some capacity to assure this is complied with by other agency actions?

g. Assess and implement temporary changes as needed to the Hydraulic Project Approval (HPA) permit program consistent with the provisions of RCW 43.83B.410.

h. Monitor for and respond to disease problems as they occur. Agency fish pathology experts should frequently consult with individual hatchery personnel to address such problems.

i. Protect freshwater and marine fish habitat and prevent fish mortality during drought conditions, including:

i. Augment instream flows through acquisitions, temporary augmentation with groundwater, or leases and/or transfers of surface and groundwater rights.

ii. Work with water managers on controlled streams to assure adequate and proper consideration is given to fish needs. Try to reach agreements, which will minimize water-use conflicts and impacts on fish and wildlife resources during drought conditions.

iii. Monitor streams for potential fish barriers and implement actions as necessary to provide for fish passage. Channel modifications (such as trenching, sandbagging, or berming), temporary fishways, trapping and hauling, or other alternatives may be implemented to provide for fish passage.

iv. Monitor water quality and, as needed, develop and encourage water quality improvement measures such as recommending increased stream flows on regulated waters, recommending or negotiating temporary variances in wastewater discharges, or acquiring water. Where necessary, implement rescue operations to relocate fish from lakes and reservoirs suffering poor water quality or drawn down.

j. Prioritize and implement programs to sustain wildlife and protect the public and private property, including:

i. Implement an emergency winter feeding program when necessary to ensure the survival of wildlife and game. This includes determining and authenticating when emergency winter conditions will have seriously impact wildlife, and preparing a request for assistance to be forwarded through the US Fish and Wildlife Service. Upon approval, the Commodity Credit Corporation can provide certificates for surplus grain.

- ii. Supply forage (hay) for big game animals to minimize damage to private agricultural crops, particularly during the winter following a drought.
  - iii. Manage Wildlife Areas to provide additional forage for wildlife as necessary, such as reducing grazing leases, especially on winter range.
  - iv. Fertilize range land to increase wildlife cover and forage during the following winter.
  - v. Increase capability to capture and relocate dangerous wildlife that may come in close proximity to the public in search of food or water, or to flee wildfires.
  - vi. Construct fences and other exclusion structures to restrict wildlife access in selected areas where property damage is likely.
- k. Prioritize and implement actions to protect water sources for fish and wildlife, including:
  - i. Where needed, temporarily impound or divert water to critical habitats or to upland watering devices
  - ii. Protect natural water sources by fencing and other infrastructure, such as piping and stock tanks, to provide water while preventing damage to sources
  - iii. Manage agency surface and ground water appropriations to minimize adverse impacts of the drought on fish and wildlife.
- l. Prioritize and implement drought response projects at fish hatcheries, fishways, and rearing facilities to protect fish during drought conditions. Projects may include:
  - i. Installation of water re-use pumps where expected needs exist.
  - ii. Drilling new wells for temporary use, or deepen existing wells to maintain water supply.
  - iii. Modify stream channels or make use of temporary fish collection weirs as necessary to ensure fish passage to hatcheries.
  - iv. Modify hatchery water intake and outlet structures to minimize drought impacts to water supplies.

- v. Minimize drought-related problems by modifying hatchery operations, such as reducing fish density, transferring fish to another facility, or implementing early fish releases.
- vi. Modify fishways to efficiently pass fish during low flow conditions.
- vii. Manage dissolved oxygen levels in holding and rearing ponds with the use of bottled gas, oxygen generator systems, or mechanical aeration.
- m. Protect wildlife area habitat and forage from wildfires by measures such as constructing firebreaks or providing water for fire suppression in critical areas not protected by the Department of Natural Resources.

#### RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Identify problem areas and assess what future actions would help alleviate the problems encountered, including:
  - i. Evaluate the efficiency of the various drought responses implemented and their benefits to fish and wildlife.
  - ii. Evaluate the effectiveness of intra- and intergovernmental communication, cooperation, and organization during drought response and explore possible improvements.
  - iii. Evaluate effective procedures and protocols in acquiring funding opportunities for future droughts.
  - iv. Assess the need for future changes in the emergency wildlife feeding programs to enhance their effectiveness.

## 7. DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES (DNR)

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Conduct timber management and harvesting activities on all state-owned forestlands. Oversee similar activities on privately-owned forestlands. Monitor timber management and harvesting practices to minimize environmental hazards.
- b. Conduct fire prevention and fire suppression activities for all forestlands administered by the department and under private ownership.
- c. Serve as chair of the Wildfire and Forest Closures Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- d. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- e. Serve as a member of the Fish and Wildlife Task Force when convened by EWEC.

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Maintain channels of communications with other regulator agencies, forest users, and the public on the fire potential as well as the status of forest restrictions.
- b. Provide long-term forecasts of forest conditions which will notify forest users well in advance of potential problems resulting from late-season water shortages and weather conditions which indicate a high fire potential.

### RESPONSE

- a. Chair the Wildfire and Forest Closures Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC). Guide the preparation of the forest closures component of the Drought Action Program for EWEC.
- b. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force and the Public Information and Education Task Force.
- c. Assess the need for closing of forestlands while considering both economic and social values.
- d. Monitor the potential for escaped forest fires on Washington's 12.5 million acres of private and state forestlands. In conjunction with local, state, and federal agencies and forest users, regulate burning, logging and other forest uses to minimize the threat of forest fires.

e. Provide public information and education, e.g. public service announcements detailing forest conditions, types of activities permitted and prohibited, expected duration of any closures, etc.

f. Aggressively attack all wildland fires that threaten Department-protected forestland until the fire no longer is a threat to life and property. Fires up to 9.9 acres will be extinguished completely.

#### RECOVERY & EVALUATION

a. Permit the gradual and orderly resumption of normal forest activities as drought conditions subside without unduly jeopardizing forest resources.

b. Take appropriate measures, such as building water bars to reduce erosion on fire lines, to minimize long-term effects of drought-caused wildfires and prevent secondary effects, such as increased erosion and landslides, from occurring.

c. Review fire suppression, forest closures and other drought-caused activities with other regulator agencies, forest users and the general public to determine their general effectiveness. Propose changes which would increase effectiveness in dealing with future drought occurrences.

## 8. EMPLOYMENT SECURITY DEPARTMENT (ESD)

### RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Monitor impacts on employment resulting from any drought occurrence (with CTED). Potential areas of concern include forced plant closures, forest operations closures, and reduced demand for migrant labor.
- b. Identify means of ameliorating the drought-related impacts on employment. Determine what assistance programs can be used to help those adversely affected by drought conditions. Utilize the Shared Work Program, under the provisions of chapter 50.60 RCW, to minimize the short-term effects of drought on local businesses. [The Shared Work Program allows the employer to reduce the hours of all affected workers by an agreed-upon percentage without laying anyone off. The affected workers are paid a percentage of their unemployment benefits that corresponds to the percentage of the reduction of their regular work hours.]
- c. Administer programs, in cooperation with DOH and OCD, to assist communities, which have been placed under long-term stress as a result of drought.
- d. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- e. Serve as a member of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC.

### ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Monitor employment conditions statewide and identify possible areas of concern should drought conditions occur. These areas of concern could include forced plant closures, forest operations closures, and reduced demand for migrant workers.

### RESPONSE

- a. Serve as a member of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by the Executive Water Emergency Committee.
- b. Monitor impacts on employment resulting from any drought occurrence. Potential areas of concern include forced plant closures, forest operations closures and reduced demand for migrant workers.
- c. Identify means of ameliorating the drought-related impacts on employment. Determine what assistance programs can be used to help those adversely affected by drought conditions.

- d. Work with CTED to coordinate state assistance in instances of threatened and actual plant closures resulting from drought-caused shortages.
- e. Administer programs, in cooperation with DOH and CTED, to assist communities, which have been placed under long-term stress as a result of drought.
- f. Utilize Shared Work program to minimize short-term effects of drought on local businesses.
- g. Provide relief programs such as entrepreneurial and vocational training to assist individuals who have been either dislocated or become unemployed as a consequence of severe drought and have little opportunity to resume previous occupations.

#### RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Provide guidance, through the Job Service Centers, regarding training and assistance programs available to those whose employment status has changed as the result of drought.
- b. Provide relief programs such as entrepreneurial and vocational training to assist individuals who have been either dislocated or become unemployed as a consequence of severe drought and have little opportunity to resume previous occupations.
- c. Utilize Shared Work program to minimize short-term effects of drought on local businesses.

9. DEPARTMENT OF COMMUNITY, TRADE, AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT (CTED)

RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Serve as chair of the Business, Employment, and Community Assistance Task Force when convened by EWEC during water shortages. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- b. Serve as chair of the Energy Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- c. Serve as chair of the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC. The chairperson will also serve as the spokesperson for the Task Force.
- d. Serve as a member of the Municipal/Domestic Supply Task Force when convened by EWEC.
- e. Monitor economic conditions and trends throughout the state (with ESD), especially if the possibility of drought arises. Inform the Competitiveness Council and the Economic Development Commission of trends and potential impacts.
- f. Develop and emphasize energy conservation programs, which will minimize water utilization in times of short supply.
- g. Encourage efficient use of energy by local governments, state agencies, and public schools.
- h. Anticipate energy issues, such as drought, which could adversely affect the state's economic climate.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Clarify and implement, in consultation with other responsible state and local agencies, any actions that will reduce the occurrence of water supply emergencies. Such actions include providing public information and education about: curtailing water use; possible hunting, camping, burning, and fireworks use restrictions; managing migrant worker programs; and identifying alternative water sources.
- b. Identify, in conjunction with EWEC, essential actions which can be carried out in advance by local governments and community organizations to prepare for drought. Necessary training, equipment, and/or financial requirements to enable local entities to fulfill their responsibilities should be identified.

- c. Conduct public information and educational activities to make local governments more aware of water supply conditions and possible remedies. Develop and conduct a series of regional workshops to be hosted jointly by the state and local governments. The workshops would be to share information, identify emerging needs, assess local capabilities, and enlist local leaders in the statewide effort to conserve water and prudently manage drought-related impacts.
- d. Enlist local governments and community leaders in the state's effort to initiate immediate voluntary conservation efforts by governments, agriculture operators, businesses, and individuals. Where necessary, provide training and equipment to local entities to monitor water usage, identify emerging critical needs, and respond to drought-related impacts.
- e. Work with WSDA in coordinating with USDA Farm Service Agency and local programs.
- f. Develop and emphasize energy conservation programs for the residential, commercial and irrigation communities, which will minimize water utilization in times of short supply.
- g. Operate the Washington Energy Extension Service which provides technical assistance to water users regarding matters of efficient water use and energy conservation.
- h. Encourage efficient use of energy by local governments, state agencies, and public schools, which can lessen increases in energy consumption.
- i. Publish the Washington Irrigator, a newsletter which provides information and assistance to the agricultural community concerning efficient energy and water use.
- j. Investigate the options of using alternative energy sources, such as coal and nuclear, as means of reducing hydropower demands during times of water shortage.
- k. Anticipate energy issues, such as drought, which could adversely affect the state's economic climate and provide information as appropriate to local economic development organizations, the Economic Development Commission, and the Competitiveness Council.

#### RESPONSE

- a. Chair the Business, Employment and Community Assistance Task Force, which reports to the Executive Water Emergency Committee (EWEC).
- b. Chair the Economic Impacts Task Force when convened by EWEC. Coordinate preparation of the economic impact component of the Drought Action Program for EWEC.

- c. Chair the Energy Task Force when convened by EWEC. Coordinate preparation of the energy component of the Drought Action Program for EWEC.
- d. Work with the Employment Security Department to coordinate state assistance in instances of threatened and actual plant closures resulting from drought-caused shortages.
- e. Conduct public information and educational activities to make local governments more aware of water supply conditions and possible remedies. Develop and conduct a series of regional workshops to share information, identify emerging needs, assess local capabilities, and enlist local leaders in an effort to promote water conservation to minimize drought-related impacts. Both state and local governments would assist in this effort.
- f. Prepare and disseminate drought information packets, in conjunction with EWEC, targeted at local governments, special purpose districts and community organizations.
- g. Identify strategies for conserving water in specific water dependent industries, including sources of financing for improvements to plants and equipment, and disseminate information to businesses.
- h. Develop a strategy to counteract drought as a potential negative impact on the state's image as an investment location.
- i. Monitor the economic impacts of drought on industries heavily reliant on available water, adequate electric power, or supplies of materials that are directly affected by the drought. This includes industries such as agriculture, forest products, food processing, aluminum, chemicals, petroleum refining, etc.
- j. Monitor the economic impacts on other activities, such as tourism, that may be affected by drought. For example, forest closures could preclude recreational opportunities, state and private parks could experience water supply problems, lower stream flows could impact river rafting and whitewater recreation, lower lake levels could cause problems of access to water, water quality could become a problem, etc.
- k. Share information with federal and private sector organizations that are monitoring drought impacts. Coordinate impact monitoring efforts and share information with neighboring states and provinces.
- l. Participate in series of regional workshops to be hosted jointly by the state and local governments. The workshops will be to share information, identify emerging needs, assess local capabilities, and enlist local leaders in the statewide effort to conserve water and prudently manage drought-related impacts.

- m. Provide drought-related information to the state's economic development community, trade-oriented organizations, business and industry associations, the Competitiveness Council, and the Economic Development Commission.
- n. Maintain communications with the Washington State University Energy Extension Service and electric utilities that provide technical assistance to energy consumers regarding the efficient use of energy.
- o. Provide technical assistance to large consumers of electricity and various trade organizations to facilitate continued operations while reducing energy consumption.
- p. Invoke energy supply emergency procedures as prescribed in Chapter 43.21G RCW as necessary, including:
  - i. Provide advice to the governor's office on ways to bring new generation on line quickly and to reduce energy consumption.
  - ii. Oversee public information efforts on energy savings and cost reduction programs.
  - iii. Encourage efficient energy use by local governments, state agencies, and public schools.
  - iv. Encourage implementation of utility programs to reduce energy consumption, maintain low costs, bring new generation on line quickly, and conduct rolling blackouts in a fair and least-disruptive manner.
- q. Review regional efforts to respond to energy problems caused by the drought.

#### RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Review with local governments the types of water supply problems encountered and possible solutions which would lessen future drought-caused impacts.
- b. Collaborate on the production of statewide public information spots, interviews and announcements for use by the print and electronic media (radio/television).
- c. Provide assistance to drought-affected businesses through available Business Assistance Programs.
- d. Make the business community aware of available assistance through participation in public information campaign.

- e. Summarize drought impacts in conjunction with the state agencies and the Economic Impacts Task Force.
- f. Review energy conservation programs to see if they might be modified to produce greater savings.
- g. Lift any emergency energy restrictions imposed as hydropower supplies return to normal.
- h. Review energy producers' and consumers' efforts to reduce energy consumption to determine if improvements can be made.

10. DEPARTMENT OF GENERAL ADMINISTRATION (GA)

RESPONSIBILITIES

- a. Operate and renovate state facilities.
- b. Manage and maintain state buildings and grounds.

ONGOING ACTIVITIES & PREPARATION

- a. Develop and coordinate plans for each state agency and other facilities to reduce their water use and electrical energy consumption by a specified amount.
- b. Have each state agency investigate achieving additional water savings through the purchase of water saving devices or the modification of existing facilities.
- c. Investigate means of achieving long-term electrical energy savings at state facilities through either improved efficiency or upgraded equipment.
- d. Identify possible funding sources for making improvements in water use and electrical energy consumption by state agencies.
- e. Develop and regularly update a means of measuring actual water savings at each state facility.

RESPONSE

- a. Implement plans for reduction of water use by each state agency.
- b. Assist each agency to achieve savings of water.
- c. Implement plans to reduce electrical energy consumption by each state agency and facility.
- d. Assist each agency to achieve energy savings.

RECOVERY & EVALUATION

- a. Evaluate and revise plans for water use and electrical energy reductions by each state agency. Determine if additional savings can be achieved for future drought occurrences.



STATE OF WASHINGTON  
DEPARTMENT OF ECOLOGY

PO Box 47600 • Olympia, Washington 98504-7600 • (360) 407-6000  
711 for Washington Relay Service • Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341

June 23, 2015

Bureau of Reclamation  
Attn: Ms. Irene M. Hoiby  
Mail Code: 84-27852  
Denver Federal Center, Bldg. 67, Rm. 152 6th  
Avenue and Kipling Street  
Denver, CO 80225

Re: Funding Opportunity Announcement No. R15AS00047.

Dear Ms. Hoiby:

The Washington Department of Ecology (Ecology) appreciates the opportunity to apply for a **Drought Contingency Planning Grant**. Please find our application attached.

On behalf of Ecology, I have reviewed and support the attached application for grant funding to update the state Drought Contingency Plan.

I affirm that Ecology is able to provide the amount of funding and/or in-kind contributions specified in the funding plan.

I affirm that Ecology will work with Reclamation to meet established deadlines for entering into a cooperative financial assistance agreement.

This letter constitutes as Ecology's Official Resolution that the terms of the funding opportunity will be met.

Questions regarding this application should be submitted to Jeff Marti at (360) 407-6627 or [jeff.marti@ecy.wa.gov](mailto:jeff.marti@ecy.wa.gov).

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in purple ink, appearing to read "E. Fairchild", is written over the word "Sincerely,".

Erik Fairchild  
Chief Financial Officer