

CITY OF SELAH, WASHINGTON
RESOLUTION NO. 2533

**A RESOLUTION of Support for Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement
Project Phase III Act legislation.**

Support for Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project Phase III Act legislation

WHEREAS, the Yakima River Basin is one of the most productive agricultural industries in the nation, contributing approximately \$4 billion to the state of Washington's annual economy;

WHEREAS, the Yakima Basin was historically home to one of the largest salmon populations in the Columbia Basin, second only to the Snake River in fisheries production

WHEREAS, the Yakima River Basin is affected by a variety of water resource constraints that adversely impact ecosystem functions for endangered fish and other aquatic species, and water supply for agriculture, municipal and domestic uses;

WHEREAS, demand for irrigation water cannot always be met in years with below-average runoff, leading to reduced (pro-rationed) irrigation water for junior water-right holders that in turn reduces farm and related income, and puts the basin's perennial crops at extreme risk;

WHEREAS, six drought years severely impacting the basin economy, ecosystem functions and reservoirs, have occurred since the 1990s, the most recent being 2015, with climate change models indicating that decreased snowpack and higher temperatures will be the norm throughout the 21st century;

WHEREAS, the goals of the Integrated Plan as endorsed by S. 1694 and H.R. 4686 are to improve the reliability of water supply for irrigation, municipal supply and domestic uses; and to protect, mitigate and enhance fish and wildlife habitat; provide increased operational flexibility to manage in-stream flows to meet ecological objectives;

WHEREAS, the legislation builds on two previous Yakima River water management Acts and provides authorization and funding for the Initial Development the legislation authorizes projects of immediate importance to addressing the aforementioned challenges and opportunities, including fish passage, accessing reservoir storage, habitat restoration and increased water market efficiencies;

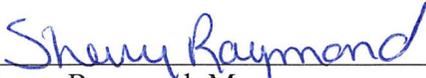
WHEREAS, the Integrated Plan also includes an adaptive management framework to address potential future changes in water needs or hydrology, including potential climate change effects;

WHEREAS, our economic vitality, the health of our lands, quality of life, agriculture, fisheries, thriving wildlife populations and diverse, world-class recreational opportunities are dependent on the Yakima Basin's clean, cold water;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that we, the Selah City Council, commemorate our support for an equally strong investment by the federal government through passage and funding of the Yakima River Basin Water Enhancement Project Phase III Acts of 2015.

THEREFORE, BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that we urge Congress and our elected officials to act, and to act in implementing federal legislation.

PASSED this 24th day of May, 2016.



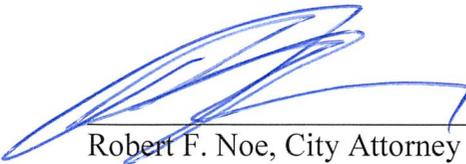
Sherry Raymond, Mayor

ATTEST:

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Dale Novobielski, Clerk/Treasurer



Robert F. Noe, City Attorney