



Confederated Tribes and Bands  
of the Yakama Nation

Established by the  
Treaty of June 9, 1855

March 31, 2008

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Re: Joint Yakama Nation, Roza Irrigation District comments on Yakima Basin Storage Study

Dear Sirs,

The Yakama Nation and Roza Irrigation District appreciate the opportunity to submit this joint letter on the Yakima Basin Storage Study EIS. The Nation and Roza hold two of the largest proratable irrigation rights in the Yakima Basin. The Yakama Nation, in addition, holds Time Immemorial Treaty Rights for water to maintain the fishery that has supported the economy, diet and culture of the Yakama People for thousands of years. We both feel that the only solution to the problems in the Yakima basin is one that benefits all resources collectively, Indian, non-Indian, instream and out. Achieving these goals will require using all the available tools, including restoration of fish passage, additional storage, further conservation, water markets, habitat restoration and others. It now seems clear that an overly restrictive congressional authorization for the storage study has precluded assembling an appropriate package of measures. It is quite clear that storage alone can not solve the range of problems facing the resources. We believe the

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