

# *Columbia-Snake River Irrigators Association*

## *“Little R-Conservation” Proposal*

- *The Story—Why Are We Here...*
  - *High Demand for New Water Supplies—Irrigated Agriculture Products.*
  - *Changes to “Little R” Relinquishment.*
  - *Making RCW 90.90 and Conservation Work for New Irrigated Ag. Water Uses.*
  - *Targeted Changes to RCW 90.90, RCW 90.14.140, and RCW 90.03.380.*
  - *“It’s the State Economy.”*

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## *“Little R-Conservation” Proposal*

- ***The Story—High Demand for New Water Supplies and Irrigated Agriculture Products.***
  - ***Changes to Commodity and Specialty Crop Values—Current Drop Is Temporary.***
  - ***Increased Land-Product Values.***
  - ***Water Right Changes/Transfers Are Not Enough.***
  - ***Growing Domestic (Local) Demand for Organics.***
  - ***Growing International Markets in Pacific Rim-Asia.***
    - ***Growing Industrial Economies.***

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## *“Little R-Conservation” Proposal*

- ***The Story—Changes to “Little R” Relinquishment.***
  - ***Deal with “Little R” Relinquishment Rather than “Big R”—Pragmatic Policy Approach.***
  - ***Deal with Relinquishment Affecting Annual O&M Measures.***
  - ***Focus on Conservation O&M:***
    - ***Irrigation Scheduling/Moisture Monitoring/Weather Monitoring.***
    - ***O&M Annual Measures—Seasonal Water Transfers.***

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## *“Little R-Conservation” Proposal*

- ***The Story—Making RCW 90.90 and Conservation Work for New Irrigated Ag. Water Uses.***
  - ***Implement in Columbia-Snake River System Under RCW 90.90 and CSRIA VRAs.***
    - ***CSRIA-Ecology Estimates for O&M Conservation: About 0.5 MAF.***
  - ***Make Conservation Savings Applicable to New Water Uses (Via Seasonal Changes).***
  - ***Deal with Equity and Efficiency Issues.***

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## *“Little R-Conservation” Proposal*

- ***The Story—Targeted Changes to RCW 90.90, 90.14.140, and 90.03.380.***
  - ***RCW 90.90: Columbia-Snake River System Water Management.***
  - ***RCW 90.14.140: Relinquishment exemption to O&M Conservation, as Defined Under 90.90.***
  - ***RCW 90.03.380: Clarify Seasonal Changes for Water Spreading.***

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## *“Little R-Conservation” Proposal*

- ***The Story—“It’s the State Economy.”***
  - ***NO State Funding Is Needed or Required.***
  - ***New Irrigated Ag. Annual Production Value:  
\$2,300-3,300/acre Household Income.***
  - ***Estimated New Capability of 20,000-30,000 acres  
Developed in 2-3 Years.***
    - ***New Statewide Annual Income of \$70-100 Million.***
  - ***Applicable to Odessa Sub-Area and Mainstem  
Columbia-Snake System (RCW 90.90).***
  - ***Avoid New Conflicts Over Columbia-Snake River Water  
Management.***