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.
  – Targeted Changes to RCW 90.90, RCW 90.14.140, and RCW 90.03.380.
  – “It’s the State Economy.”
Columbia-Snake River Irrigators Association
“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 Industrial Economies.
Columbia-Snake River Irrigators Association  
“Little R-Conservation” Proposal

• The Story—Changes to “Little R” Relinquishment.
  – 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.
Columbia-Snake River Irrigators Association
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• 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.
Columbia-Snake River Irrigators Association
“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.**