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**Washington Association of Wheat Growers
2025 Resolutions**

NATIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE

WAWG supports recognizing outcome based agricultural practices as a benefit to the environment. Further, any policy or regulation regarding conservation practices and technological advancements that aid in the reduction of carbon emissions should be administered through the farm bill or the private sector. The wheat industry should be fully involved in discussions and development of any policy or legislation relating to climate change.

WAWG supports a loan program that is based on the cost of production for each class of wheat (FAPRI) instead of being based on the market price of wheat.

WAWG supports Posted County Prices (PCP) that are based on how wheat is marketed. Examples include 14% protein for DNS, 12% protein for Hard White, 11.5% protein for Hard Red Winter wheat, and 10.5% protein for Soft White wheat.

WAWG encourages USDA to keep the wheat loan rate comparable with competitive crops, so wheat production is not at a farm program disadvantage.

WAWG supports refinement to the grower questionnaires from National Ag Statistic Services (NASS) that would reduce the length of surveys with the elimination of redundant questions and the timely use of farm operator level data already reported to Farm Service Agency and Risk Management Agency.

WAWG recommends that NASS include club wheat as a category in surveys where seeded acres, production and stored bushels are required. Stocks of club wheat shall be reported in the June 1 stocks report, and acres and production in the September 30th Small Grains Report.

WAWG supports allowing producers to form health insurance purchasing cooperatives and/or associations, including across state lines.

WAWG encourages the buildout of broadband internet infrastructure in rural America.

WAWG supports organizations, who are working to make the voice of agriculture heard in discussions related to climate change.

WAWG supports the Growing Climate Solutions Act to provide credible information to growers about voluntary ecosystem service markets and increase farmer engagement in USDA oversight.

WAWG supports a role for extension and/or other agencies in assisting farmers in making educated decisions on carbon markets, including but not limited to contract review and related information.

WAWG supports the inclusion of wheat in all production systems including when used as a cover crop.

51 As carbon markets are expanded and growers consider voluntary participation, there may be
52 roles for federal government involvement. WAWG believes any government involvement
53 should:

- 54 • Incentivize farming and ranching practices that benefit the environment including but not
55 limited to carbon sequestration and avoided emissions.
- 56 • Provide options for farmers and beginning farmers that may not be able to participate in
57 carbon markets but are undertaking practices that provide carbon sequestration and
58 greenhouse gas reductions and other environmental benefits, such as producers in
59 certain geographical locations and early adopters of those practices through new and
60 existing conservation programs or other USDA initiatives.
- 61 • Complement and enhance but not take away resources – financial and technical – from
62 existing USDA conservation, crop and insurance programs.

63
64 WAWG recommends that USDA NASS in their ending stock surveys, add an additional question
65 on how much is available for sale by the elevator and/or the grower.

66
67 WAWG supports the retention of federal appointees while new administrations consider new
68 position appointments.

69
70 WAWG opposes the foreign ownership of agricultural land in the state of WA by countries not
71 friendly with the U.S.

72
73 WAWG supports the monitoring and education of the foreign ownership of our ag lands.

74
75 WAWG supports federal monitoring and reporting of foreign ownership of agricultural land.

76
77 **BARLEY**

78
79 WAWG encourages USDA to keep the barley loan rate comparable with competitive crops, so
80 barley production is not at a farm program disadvantage.

81
82 **FARM PROGRAM**

83
84 WAWG opposes means testing for any Farm Program payment or crop insurance subsidy.

85
86 WAWG does not support any form of government owned reserves.

87
88 WAWG supports the present system of electing farmers to the Farm Service Agency (FSA)
89 County Committee.

90
91 WAWG will work with and lobby appropriate officials to continue the policy that allows the FSA
92 county committee to make “Good Faith Determinations” each year.

93
94 Wheat growers should be able to lock in Loan Deficiency Payments (LDP) payment rates for
95 wheat any time after April 1st, or after their wheat is harvested, whichever comes first.

96
97 WAWG supports the implementation of the conservation portion of the farm bill. However, we do
98 not support the use of other program funds to support the conservation part of the program.

99
100 WAWG supports FSA deducting all shipping/handling and quality discounts from all commodity
101 loan proceeds.

102

103 WAWG supports adequate funding for local FSA county offices.

104

105 WAWG supports a consistent ARC floor price with the final PLC reference price.

106

107 WAWG supports a higher statutory reference price for PLC.

108

109

RISK MANAGEMENT

110

111 WAWG supports adoption of a consistent USDA wide pack factor when calculating bushels of
112 stored grain to more accurately reflect actual quantity.

113

114 WAWG will continue to work with the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to improve the wheat
115 policy and recommends the following changes in the wheat contract:

116

- 117 1. RMA should allow the regional office the ability to make changes in the final planting
118 dates when agronomic conditions are such that many farmers, while farming using good
119 economical and agronomic practices, cannot meet the final planting date of the policy.

120

121 WAWG urges RMA to allow producers to select different coverage levels and price elections for
122 irrigated and non-irrigated, and different types and classes of wheat.

123

124 WAWG recommends the RMA allow crop insurance proceeds on Schedule F be included as
125 income for whole farm crop insurance purposes.

126

127 WAWG recommends that RMA address the issues of indemnity of claims and APH adjustments
128 for uninsured causes (such as fire wildlife damage) due to no fault of the grower.

129

130 WAWG recommends that RMA attach full insurance coverage at time of planting for replant
131 payment purposes.

132

133 WAWG supports programs that promote outreach and education concerning RMA programs.

134

135 WAWG opposes linking conservation compliance to crop insurance program participation.

136

137 WAWG supports the option of a new landowner using the APH yield from the previous operator
138 regardless of acreage in the county.

139

140 WAWG supports changes in the federal crop insurance policy to allow all classes of wheat to be
141 insured as separate crops.

142

143 WAWG supports a ten-year average APH for insurance purposes if given the option.

144

145 WAWG supports crop insurance special provisions that allow lower discounts for quality in all
146 classes of wheat.

147

148 WAWG opposes quality discounts in the calculation of Actual Production History (APH) values.

149

150 WAWG supports additional flexibility in prevented planting provisions which favor history of
151 participation instead of current year planting requirements for eligibility of the Enterprise Unit
152 structure.

153

154 WAWG supports the expansion of RMA margin protection insurance products for winter and
155 spring wheat to all producing counties.

156
157 WAWG supports efforts to improve crop insurance quality adjustments by refining loss
158 provisions, discount factors, and tables to more accurately reflect marketplace discounts,
159 thereby providing wheat growers with more effective coverage during periods of quality related
160 losses.

161
162 WAWG supports efforts to promote a broad and accessible network of crop insurance providers
163 across all regions, ensuring that growers have sufficient access to qualified agents and diverse
164 policy options to effectively meet their risk management needs.

165
166 WAWG recognizes the soil and environmental benefits of wheat in a crop rotation and therefore
167 supports intentionally seeded winter wheat being eligible for classification as a cover crop for
168 NRCS and climate-smart programs, while not impacting its eligibility as a harvestable cash crop
169 insurable through crop insurance and other safety net programs.

170
171 WAWG supports crop insurance covering all fire damage with the exception of grower caused.

172
173 **TAXES**

174
175 WAWG supports income averaging, Farm Account for Rural and Ranch Management (FARRM),
176 allow investment credits, favor capital gains-type investments, would eliminate federal estate
177 taxes permanently, retain cash basis accounting and would let all types of entities deduct health
178 insurance premiums.

179
180 WAWG supports the elimination of the Federal estate tax or maintaining a minimum level of
181 \$13.99 million per individual estate tax exemption indexed to inflation, retaining a step up in
182 basis.

183
184 WAWG supports the exclusion of farm rental income from self-employment taxes.

185
186 WAWG supports the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) net income (i.e. Schedule F) figures for
187 determining agriculture's financial position.

188
189 WAWG supports reinstatement of the following for C-Corps: the 15% corporate tax rate for the
190 first \$50,000 in taxable income, the 100% deduction for farm meals, and the domestic
191 production activities deductions (199a) for C-Corps with less than \$1 million gross revenue.

192
193 WAWG supports a provision to allow for current year income to be 100% offset by a net
194 operating loss carried forward.

195
196 WAWG supports an increase in the mileage exemption for heavy highway vehicle use tax from
197 7,500 to 20,000 miles for agricultural vehicles, and the simplification of applying for exemption.

198
199 **MARKETING COMMITTEE**

200
201 **TRADE**

202
203 WAWG supports the continued donation of US-produced commodities to meet Food Aid
204 distribution needs, not cash donations.

205

206 WAWG urges international harmonization of scientific standards and trade rules.
207 WAWG recommends USW and NAWG work to see markets adhere to CODEX standards
208 regarding import specification.
209
210 WAWG supports an exemption for the PNW states relevant to the Jones Act to allow natural
211 gas products, anhydrous ammonia and grain to be delivered by foreign vessels to and from
212 ports on the west coast.
213
214 WAWG urges Congress, the administration, and the USDA to continue to facilitate and
215 encourage trade with all of our world customers with innovative credit programs.
216
217 WAWG supports increased funding for the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market
218 Development (FMD) and continued funding for the Ag Trade Promotion (ATP) Program.
219
220 WAWG opposes any trade distorting policies that interfere with the international shipment of
221 grain. Examples include but are not limited to: unilateral sanctions, embargoes, violations of
222 contract sanctity, cargo preference laws, Turkish flour dumping, SPS issues, State Trading
223 Enterprises (STE's) and the withholding of food as leverage to achieve political objectives.
224
225 WAWG urges US trade negotiators to protect domestic farm policies from being negotiated
226 away to benefit other sectors of the US economy.
227
228 WAWG calls for an open border with Canada that provides for reciprocal bilateral wheat trade
229 and encourages cooperation with Canadian producers and industry to achieve an open border
230 with reciprocal access.
231
232 WAWG supports protecting non-trade-distorting and minimally trade-distorting domestic farm
233 programs that maintain an adequate safety net.

234 WAWG opposes the Turkish government's use of disruptive incentives to its milling industry to
235 export flour, regardless of price to export markets. Such exports clearly constitute dumping.
236 WAWG supports US trade officials working with the impacted nations to impose a reasonable
237 anti-dumping duty on Turkish flour imports.

238 WAWG supports bilateral and multilateral trade agreements that are favorable to the U.S. wheat
239 industry as a top priority for USTR (US Trade Representative). WAWG opposes any withdrawal
240 prior to any new trade agreement ratification.

241 WAWG supports the Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im) of the United States as a mechanism to
242 finance international sales that would not otherwise occur.
243
244 WAWG encourages the Administration and USTR's office to fully comply and enforce WTO
245 rules and regulations, utilizing the trade dispute settlement system as the best way to eliminate
246 foreign trade barriers.
247
248 WAWG supports Trade Promotion Authority (Fast Track), to be fully utilized for brokering trade
249 agreements.
250
251 WAWG supports maintaining the FGIS grading requirements for contrasting classes of wheat.
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FARM PROGRAM

WAWG will promote, develop, or pursue adequate state or federal funding for any and all farm programs on marketing and export.

WAWG supports development of a sound agricultural export policy to ensure U.S. competitiveness in the world market.

WAWG shall encourage reduction of the regulatory and tax burdens on agriculture and supporting industries.

MARKETING

Wheat and barley should be marketed on a 12% fixed moisture basis.

US Grain Standards should reflect and identify end-use characteristics of grain, foreign or domestic, as set and approved by the Federal Grain Inspection Service. An end-use certificate should remain with the grain even though possession or identity may change.

WAWG encourages grain segregation based on customer needs or market demands.

RESEARCH

WAWG supports restoring funding for the IMPACT Center (International Marketing Program for Agricultural Commodities & Trade) at Washington State University (WSU) to research international markets, product development, and to assess the implementation of policy changes for the U.S. wheat industry.

WAWG supports continued funding through the WGC for WSU/USDA-ARS Minimum Quality Standards project - G & E study. ("G" represents the genetic component of wheat quality and "E" represents the environmental component)

WAWG supports efforts of the Washington State Crop Improvement Association (WSCIA) to control jointed goat grass and noxious weeds and urges growers to use caution when purchasing seed from questionable sources.

WAWG encourages other states to adopt a zero tolerance for jointed goat grass in certified seed and to enforce existing standards for all noxious weeds.

WAWG supports research funding for an alternative wheat utilization market and encourages the commercial sale of value-added grain products for export.

WAWG encourages additional financial support from state and federal agencies to develop new value added industries for the use of straw and grains, including but not limited to tax incentives, building code changes, low interest loans and grants.

WAWG supports research to develop uniform, replicable measures of carbon sequestration.

306 **NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

307

308

CONSERVATION PROGRAMS

309

310 WAWG supports laws and regulations that allow Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
311 (CREP) funds to be used to implement conservation practices for either endangered species
312 recovery or clean water.

313

314 WAWG opposes public acquisition of private land without providing for the loss in property tax
315 revenue to local governments.

316

317 WAWG supports federally sponsored programs promoting all natural resource conservation
318 programs provided they include strong local input and control.

319

320 WAWG supports tax law changes and cost share programs that would provide incentives for
321 producers to invest in equipment that is designed for conservation.

322

323 Long-term resource retirement or rental program payments should reflect the productive value
324 of the land, protect its crop history base, and not require additional restrictive measures upon
325 lands returned to production.

326

327 WAWG requests that agricultural representatives and producers be involved in the planning and
328 implementation of government programs and regulations at federal, state and local levels to
329 ensure that regulations are socially and economically feasible for growers.

330

331 WAWG supports NRCS' Local Working Group process to remain in local conservation district
332 control.

333

334 WAWG supports consolidation of conservation programs as long as flexibility in implementation
335 of the program is maintained and/or increased.

336

337 WAWG acknowledges that soil erosion, to some degree, is a naturally occurring event, but
338 through the use of research, technology and BMPs the land will remain productive for
339 generations into the future.

340

341 WAWG urges state and federal agencies to utilize voluntary, incentive-based conservation
342 practices when regulating the Clean Water and Clean Air acts, rather than issuing regional or
343 statewide mandates.

344

345 WAWG recognizes NRCS, Washington State Conservation Commission and local conservation
346 districts as the authorities in conservation technical guidance throughout the state and urges
347 state and federal regulators to also recognize them as the authorities and support funding them
348 accordingly.

349

350 WAWG opposes a federal or state agency requiring that a landowner install a prescribed
351 practice on their land as a precondition to receiving any other federal or state cost share
352 funding.

353

354 WAWG supports maintaining the trust relationship between USDA and farmers and opposes
355 NRCS using employees from other organizations that would violate that trust.

356

357 WAWG supports adequate funding for NRCS technical assistance and implementations of Farm
358 Bill conservation programs.

359
360 WAWG supports efforts to implement quality assurances within NRCS programs in a consistent,
361 accountable manner.

362
363 WAWG supports RCPP that enhances the sustainability of wheat production in Washington
364 State.

365
366 WAWG supports identification of roles and responsibilities of USDA agencies through
367 collaboration of data.

368
369 WAWG supports any federal or state agency (except for emergency services) to give notice to
370 the landowner or tenant prior to the inspection of their property.

371
372 WAWG supports transparency from private to public, state, and federal agencies, when utilizing
373 drones or other forms of electronic data.

374
375 WAWG supports ensuring that organic producers are held to the same standards as those set
376 for conventional production.

377
378 WAWG supports tax benefits for farmers to encourage ongoing management of conservation
379 practices and options for producers to begin or expand conservation/carbon sequestration and
380 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction efforts.

381
382 WAWG supports programs that pay producers for their ongoing climate farming practices.

383
384 WAWG supports the development of a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) analysis on wheat.

385
386 WAWG supports NRCS adding additional enhancements that would help wheat growers be
387 eligible for Inflation Reduction Act (IRA) funds and other NRCS programs.

388
389 **CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP)**

390
391 WAWG supports the use of EBI score criteria that does not change for the life of the farm bill.

392
393 WAWG supports the establishment of a conservation priority area (CPA) for all endangered
394 species and/or priority species that is exempt from the current state CPA zone acre cap.

395
396 The CRP payment exemptions and the death benefits that apply to the landlord's heirs should
397 also apply to the operator's heirs.

398
399 WAWG supports CRP when it is part of the economic and environmental portfolio of a working
400 farm.

401
402 WAWG supports adjusting EBI numbers to reflect the fact that CRP cover has habitat value for
403 wildlife.

404
405 CRP plant stands should be kept as weed-free as possible.

406
407 CRP plant stand evaluations should be based on original certification standards.

408

409 WAWG supports increased CRP rental rates for water way buffers.
410
411 WAWG supports expanding the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program to
412 include intermittent, ephemeral and perennial waters.
413
414 WAWG encourages increased communication with federal and state agencies that are
415 writing rules and regulations, standards and technical guidance that have potential major
416 impacts to our natural resources at the local level without local input.
417
418 WAWG supports CSP being recognized as a conservation practice for CRP bid
419 submission.
420
421 WAWG supports efforts to realign CRP contract duration for continuous and general
422 CRP contracts thus allowing the entire field to be returned to production at the same
423 point in time.
424
425 WAWG supports separate payment limitations between CRP, CBS (Contour Buffer
426 Strips), CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) and SAFE (State Acres
427 for Wildlife Enhancement) among priority areas.
428
429 WAWG supports raising the individual payment limitation for CRP from \$50,000 to at
430 least \$150,000.
431
432 WAWG supports research into how acreage is determined in the Conservation Priority
433 Area (CPA) area.
434
435 WAWG requests financial accommodation from Farm Service Agency in cases of natural
436 disasters that impair previously established CRP stands.
437
438 WAWG supports the allocation of higher bid points to CRP for farmland that is located in
439 12 inch or below precipitation zones to address air or water quality concerns.
440
441 WAWG supports revising the CRP-TIP program to remove the limitations on payments
442 to the retiring farmer or operator if the “covered farmer” (TIP application) is a family
443 member as defined in section 1001 of the Food Security act of 1985.
444
445 WAWG supports the Secretary of Ag to have the authority to waive the 25% CRP cap in
446 a county that has designated CPA (Critical Priority Areas) in that county.
447
448 WAWG supports the continual maintenance of CRP and the mid management practice
449 cost share.
450
451 WAWG supports a review of the technical aspects of the CRP program.
452
453 WAWG supports a regionally based CRP program that accounts for the different
454 climates, soils, and agroeconomic conditions across all wheat regions.
455

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP)

456
457
458 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) payment limitation rules should be changed to follow
459 standard FSA “person determination” guidelines.
460

461 WAWG supports a CSP program will be administered by FSA with technical work done by
462 NRCS.

463
464 A producer who farms state and federally owned lands should be eligible to participate in CSP.
465

466 WAWG supports raising the individual payment limitation for CSP from \$40,000 to
467 \$100,000.

468
469 WAWG supports continued funding for the CSP program, if the program is cut or phased out we
470 support those funds being redirected to the EQIP programs rather than RCPP and easements.

471
472 WAWG supports working with NRCS to identify potential practices that benefit the environment
473 by agronomic zones.

474
475 WAWG supports an easy to navigate program that pays producers yearly for the carbon
476 sequestration practices they completed that year.

477
478 **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (ESA)**

479
480 WAWG supports modifying the ESA to take into consideration the economic impact of
481 recovering endangered species.

482
483 WAWG believes that actions taken because of the Endangered Species Act or the Clean Water
484 Act should be economically viable, biologically sound and respect landowners' rights.

485
486 WAWG will work for economic stability in counties that have land in CRP and species that are
487 listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

488
489 WAWG supports an ESA baseline that includes dams.

490
491 WAWG supports efforts to update ESA law implementation to protect listed species by
492 developing and providing biologically sound, scientifically based, and cost-effective measures
493 implemented in a way that maintains strong regional economies.

494
495 WAWG supports requiring local consultation before the implementation of any action done
496 under the authority of ESA.

497
498 **WATER**

499
500 WAWG supports local level participation in regulatory decision-making activities impacting water
501 quality, quantity, instream flow and habitat use.

502
503 WAWG opposes federal, state, or local designation of any agricultural practice as a point source
504 of pollution. Agriculture crop production has historically been regarded as a "non-point" source
505 of pollution under the Clean Water Act (CWA).

506
507 WAWG supports reforming the water relinquishment statute to preserve existing water rights.

508
509 WAWG supports continuing development of the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Columbia
510 Basin Project to minimize groundwater declines within the Odessa Groundwater Management
511 Subarea. (Chapter 173-130A WAC)

512

513 WAWG supports keeping an exempt well statute.
514
515 WAWG opposes any action that would reduce agricultural priorities of any of the state's water or
516 change the first-in-time, first-in-right doctrine, as intended by Western Water Law.
517
518 WAWG urges members of congress and the administration to ensure that CWA permits not be
519 required for labeled applications of labeled crop protection products.
520
521 WAWG opposes changing the definition in the CWA from "navigable waterways" to "all waters"
522 in the US.
523
524 WAWG encourages EPA to use the WSDA Water Monitoring Data results during their rule
525 making on agricultural issues.
526
527 WAWG opposes unreasonable buffer zones that exceed the pesticide label recommendations
528 for waterways that are not based on sound science.
529
530 WAWG actively opposes an increase in water right application fees and opposes instituting an
531 annual water management service fee.
532
533 WAWG will work with the state legislature, agricultural organizations, etc. to explore rewriting
534 the WAC or propose new legislation that improves the potential visual citation process and
535 improves the working relationship with landowners, managers of our natural resources.
536
537 WAWG encourages agricultural group participation in the decision-making process that defines
538 "substantial potential to pollute" in Washington state.
539
540 WAWG encourages the Washington State Department of Ecology to continue to convene the
541 agriculture and water quality advisory committee.
542
543 WAWG opposes an expansive interpretation of US Army Corps "Waters of the US" (WOTUS).
544
545 WAWG supports a legislative fix to the Washington State Supreme Court Foster decision to
546 allow out-of-kind mitigation to offset environmental impact for water permits.
547
548 **AIR**
549
550 WAWG supports the option of controlled open field burning as a tool in agriculture's effort to
551 implement integrated pest management, manage residue and improve soil conservation
552 practices.
553
554 WAWG opposes changes to the Washington Clean Air Act that will negatively affect agriculture.
555
556 WAWG supports the Department of Ecology's program to educate both the public and growers
557 about smoke management for public health.
558
559 WAWG supports field burning regulations based on Best Management Practices (BMPs)
560 administered at the local level.
561
562 WAWG will work with the appropriate agencies to refine BMPs to reduce emission from ag
563 burning.
564

565 WAWG will continue to work with federal and state agencies and university researchers to study
566 the origins and effects of naturally occurring fugitive dust.

567
568 WAWG opposes any agricultural dust and air quality particle size regulations.

569
570 WAWG opposes air quality restrictions that reduce particle size and micron limitations to air
571 quality that results in a net loss to the Washington agricultural industry.

572
573 WAWG supports that the Agriculture Burning Task Force continue to set the burn permit fee as
574 stated in current law.

575
576 WAWG supports the Department of Ecology maintaining a seven day per week agricultural burn
577 smoke management program.

578
579 WAWG will work to ensure that air quality standards for ozone will not impact the Agriculture
580 Burning Task Force agreements.

581
582 WAWG supports collaboration and clear communication on the notification process for allowed
583 ag burning between fire districts, Clean Air Authorities, and Department of Ecology.

584
585 WAWG does not support any cap and trade, carbon sequestration, or climate change provisions
586 without being a full partner in the development of any policy or legislation.

587
588 WAWG supports market-based legislation that is fair, affordable, and achievable using the best
589 scientific information, and does not make wheat growers less competitive in the global market or
590 add undue costs.

591
592 **ENERGY**

593
594 WAWG supports development of alternative sources of energy that benefit small grain
595 producers if they are not more expensive than hydropower, or cause rates to go up.

596
597 WAWG urges that climate change proposals consider production of foodstuffs a national priority
598 and avoid negative impact upon the costs and adequacy of supplies of essential inputs used to
599 produce crops.

600
601 WAWG endorses all hydropower as a qualifying renewable resource.

602
603 WAWG supports a change in the Energy Independence Act that would allow utilities to delay
604 buying power from eligible renewable sources until their demand grows enough that they need
605 the additional power.

606
607 WAWG opposes increasing the renewable portfolio standard or limiting the ability of utilities to
608 acquire new power sources if hydropower is not considered a qualifying renewable resource
609 under the Energy Independence Act.

610
611 WAWG supports opportunities to increase hydropower, nuclear energy, biomass, biogas,
612 hydrogen, renewable natural gas, renewable propane, and other low-carbon emitting sources of
613 energy.

614
615 WAWG supports the continued use of natural gas for grid reliability and energy affordability.

616

617 WAWG supports retaining and implementing the exemptions in the Climate Commitment Act
618 that exempts certain fuel used for agricultural use (i.e. on the farm and transporting ag products)
619 and making both exemptions permanent. WAWG supports the continuation of a state rebate
620 program through Department of Licensing to rebate farmers and haulers of farm products for
621 carbon fuel surcharges they have paid, but not been reimbursed.

622 **CROP PROTECTION**

623
624 Registrations for agricultural chemicals in the US and Canada should be harmonized.

625
626 WAWG will work with pesticide manufacturers, regulatory agencies and research universities to
627 gain and maintain pesticide registrations that are recognized by all federal agencies.

628
629 WAWG supports increased federal funding for import food inspections.

630
631 WAWG recommends that imported food inspections be conducted by USDA.

632
633 WAWG supports the professional use of pesticides and best management practices.

634
635 WAWG opposes mandatory reporting of agricultural pesticide use to governmental agencies.

636
637 WAWG will study, comment on, or oppose any efforts, governmental or otherwise, to remove
638 the labels from commonly used agricultural pesticides in the Pacific Northwest.

639
640 WAWG supports the continued use of glyphosate for all applications.

641
642 WAWG opposes cancelling crop protection product labels or uses unless equivalent
643 replacement products are available.

644
645 WAWG opposes requirements that the applicator provide mandatory notification be given prior
646 to pesticide application.

647 **BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP)**

648
649 Best Management Practices (BMP) and preservation of crop residue for Alternative
650 Conservation Systems (ACS) acreage should reflect local BMPs as developed and revised
651 locally. Conservation District boards should retain the authority to develop ACS.

652
653 WAWG will strive to ensure that all BMPs will be written to continue the economic sustainability
654 of current farm units.

655
656 WAWG requests federal and state agencies recognize local innovative conservation and BMPs
657 and give farmers credit for using practices that effectively protect the natural resources on their
658 farms.

659
660 WAWG will work with agencies to evaluate local BMPs that help protect ground water.

661
662 WAWG will work with all agricultural organizations to educate the DOE so that they adopt local
663 BMPs, farm plans, and continue to use the NRCS technical guidelines that will result in the
664 protection of the natural resources and water quality.

665
666
667

668 Direct seeding is a useful management tool for some circumstances in our state, but it should
669 never be a mandated best management practice for the whole state, or specific regions.

670
671 WAWG will assist the WACD, Conservation Districts and Pacific Northwest Direct Seed
672 Association to work with NRCS at the state and national level so that the 329 and 345 standards
673 use RUSLE Soil Value at 30 and less. This will allow the choices and evaluation of equipment
674 with the grower and local NRCS staff.

675
676 WAWG supports that the NRCS change its rules to allow the counting of green growth (grower's
677 crop) in the calculation of residue for HEL compliance.

678
679 WAWG supports the Washington State Conservation Commission efforts to develop BMP's for
680 nonpoint pollution.

681
682 **RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

683
684 WAWG strongly encourages the prioritization of wheat and barley research, including Varietal
685 Development, Production and Marketing:

- 686
687
- 688 1. All aspects of diseases, insects, and weeds management including development
689 of resistant varieties and BMPs to minimize herbicide resistance in weeds.
 - 690 2. Improved adaptation for new varieties, especially for drought, winter hardiness,
691 falling numbers and sprout damage.
 - 692 3. Soil conservation and fertility related to plant nutrition.
 - 693 4. Cropping Systems: Foundation and developmental research into the interaction
694 of soil health, crop rotation and fertility and alternative crops.
 - 695 5. Regional Approaches to Climate Change with emphasis on Carbon
696 Sequestration and Drought.
 - 697 6. Marketing (including the restoration of IMPACT funding – WSU's International
698 Marketing Program for Agricultural Commodities and Trade and the Wheat
699 Marketing Center).
 - 700 7. Agriculture economics
 - 701 8. Varietal testing of all public and private cultivars grown in Washington for
702 performance; adaptation and grain quality across all of Washington's major
703 wheat growing environments.

704 WAWG, in conjunction with the Washington Grain Commission (WGC) and Washington State
705 University (WSU), should work toward greater Pacific Northwest support for USDA/ARS's NW
706 Sustainable Agroecosystems Research Unit located in Pullman, WA to conduct fundamental
707 and translational research that will result in improved soil health and carbon sequestration in
708 wheat and barley cropping systems.

709
710 WAWG will work with environmental groups to find areas of mutual concern where both groups
711 can financially support sound science research that focuses on solving environmental quality
712 problems.

713
714 WAWG urges all growers to participate in coordinated farm research.

715
716 WAWG supports full and continued funding of the Ag and Food Research Initiative in the Farm
717 Bill.

718

719 WAWG supports a collaborative approach to grain research between Idaho, Oregon, and
720 Washington.
721
722 WAWG supports the research and deployment (commercialization) of a rapid, reliable, quality
723 test method to replace the existing falling number test and its adoption as the grading factor for
724 “falling number” in wheat.
725
726 WAWG supports research to determine if using a lower falling number standard would affect
727 end-use quality.
728
729 WAWG supports continuation of funding in the Washington State Soil Health initiative which
730 provides funding to Washington State University, to conduct research and pilot projects for
731 practices and policies by the Washington State Department of Agriculture and the Washington
732 State Conservation Commission that would improve soil health and improve agricultural
733 productivity.
734
735 WAWG supports the use of approved best management practices for addressing weed
736 resistance.
737
738 WAWG supports the mission and focus of WSU, Washington’s Land Grant University. Essential
739 to fulfilling that mission is fostering the research preeminence of WSU faculty that is
740 fundamental to the future success of Washington’s agriculture.
741
742 WAWG supports that WSU begins the process of filling positions that they know will be open in
743 the near term, instead of waiting until after the vacancy, especially within CAHNRS, wheat
744 research, and extension.
745
746 WAWG supports the implementation of long-term career incentives by WSU for research and
747 extension positions that provide direct support for Washington grain farms.
748
749 WAWG supports an increase in communication with WSU leadership at least annually to
750 identify priorities and work towards fulfilling them.

751
752 **RESEARCH FUNDING**
753

754 WAWG supports efforts to fund WSU, Agricultural Research Center and University Extension at
755 the level of its peer institutions.
756
757 WAWG supports Plant Variety Protection (PVP) for new publicly released varieties of wheat
758 developed at WSU that need Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection for varieties
759 developed with public funds.
760
761 WAWG requests the Washington State Legislature to ensure that funding be maintained at
762 Washington State University in the College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resource
763 Sciences to prevent further erosion of faculty, staff, and student positions.
764
765 WAWG supports stabilized or increased funding to the ARS facilities in Pullman, WA.
766
767 WAWG supports and encourages the American wheat and barley industry to join National
768 Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research Initiative (C-FAR), with the rest of the agricultural
769 industry, to double agricultural research funding.
770

771 WAWG supports the Washington Grain Commission, WSU, and USDA ARS to secure
772 sustainable and perpetual funding sources for club wheat research.

773
774 WAWG supports federal funding for the PNW herbicide weed resistance initiative.
775

776 WAWG encourages WSU to fully fund and replace open county extension positions.
777

778 WAWG supports continued funding at or above inflation-based levels for USDA-ARS and USDA
779 NIFA/AFRI, the primary sources for federally funded agricultural research.
780

781 **EDUCATION**

782
783 WAWG supports and encourages standardization of wheat quality testing protocols,
784 procedures, and data reporting between the four Pacific Northwest wheat quality testing
785 laboratories. This includes the USDA-ARS Western Wheat Quality Laboratory located in
786 Pullman, WA; the Wheat Marketing Center, Inc., located in Portland, OR; and the University of
787 Idaho Wheat Quality Laboratory, located in Aberdeen, ID, the Oregon State University, and
788 Wheat Quality Laboratory located in Corvallis, OR.
789

790 WAWG supports Washington State University retaining full authority to use, manage, buy and
791 sell research real estate properties that they own and oversee.
792

793 **INNOVATION FOR CONTINUED VARIETY IMPROVEMENT AND MARKETING**

794
795 Advancing breeding technology holds great promise for the future and the US wheat industry
796 values these advancements. In preparation for the future commercialization of wheat derived
797 through these technologies, we take the following positions:
798

- 799 1. We support and will work to ensure the ability of wheat producers to make planting and
800 marketing choices based on economic, agronomic, and market factors.
- 801 2. We support the ability of our wheat customers to make purchases based on specific
802 traits. We commit ourselves to the principle that our customers' needs are vitally
803 important.
- 804 3. We support and will assist in the development by all segments of the industry of an
805 orderly marketing system to assure delivery of non-transgenic wheat to markets that
806 require it.
- 807 4. We urge the adoption of nationally and internationally accepted definition of generally
808 accepted breeding technology. We also urge international harmonization of scientific
809 standards and trade rules.
- 810 5. We support voluntary labeling of food products derived from specific breeding
811 technologies provided these technologies are consistent with US law and international
812 trade agreements and are truthful and not misleading. We support the establishment of a
813 reasonable threshold level for adventitious or accidental inclusion of transgenic traits in
814 bulk wheat or wheat food products in both U.S. and international markets.
- 815 6. We are confident that continued advances in breeding techniques will deliver significant
816 consumer and producer benefits, and we support continued advanced research and
817 product and market development. We invite valued and interested customers to join with
818 us in a working partnership to capitalize on emerging novel wheat breeding
819 technologies.
820

821
822 **STATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

823
824 **LEGISLATION**

- 825
826 WAWG supports the WSU CAHNRS budget requests.
827
828 WAWG opposes restrictions on roadside spraying that will compromise fire and weed
829 management.
830
831 WAWG opposes state legislation creating collective bargaining rights for agricultural workers.
832
833 WAWG supports maintaining the integrity of dedicated state funds and accounts. Any
834 associated accrued interest should be appropriated to and used for only their original intent.
835
836 WAWG supports the policy that, if state agriculture programs, including research dollars, are
837 subject to budget cuts to achieve deficit reduction, the same percentage of cuts should apply to
838 all state government programs.
839
840 WAWG opposes state legislation and regulations pertaining to greenhouse gases that are
841 economically disruptive such as cap and trade, carbon tax, or a low carbon fuel standard.
842
843 WAWG supports the use of voluntary incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions rather
844 than mandates.
845
846 WAWG supports voluntary development and deployment of greenhouse gas reduction
847 technology.
848
849 WAWG supports a guest worker program that secures the borders of the US and provides a
850 legal, affordable, and stable workforce for agriculture.
851
852 WAWG encourages the buildout of broadband internet infrastructure in Washington state.
853
854 WAWG supports an employee's right to earn a competitive wage for his or her productive work.
855
856 WAWG supports legislation to provide seasonal flexibility from paying overtime for agriculture
857 workers.
858
859 WAWG supports the state taking all possible steps to avoid economic and environmental
860 leakage from carbon laws and regulations to protect Washington's existing manufacturing jobs
861 and infrastructure. WAWG supports ongoing efforts by Energy Intensive, Trade Exposed
862 businesses, such as food processors, to have a compliance pathway based on economic and
863 technological feasibility.
864
865 WAWG opposes bans to restrict the use of existing energy sources, including natural gas.
866 Ensuring power reliability should be prioritized over meeting arbitrary reduction targets.
867
868 WAWG opposes the creation of any qui tam (private right of action) enforcement powers in
869 labor and employment statutes.
870
871 WAWG supports any reforms to Washington's Paid Family and Medical Leave program must
872 preserve the program's basic premium share and benefits structure.

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TAXES

WAWG positions on state tax policy are:

1. Support the Open Space Act.
2. Support tax and spending reform and elimination of the B&O tax.
3. Oppose taxes and policies that hinder intra-family transfers of family farms.
4. Oppose removal of lands from local tax rolls through state and federal acquisition without compensation to local taxing jurisdictions. (PILT)
5. Oppose any changes to any tax preferences that would be harmful to agriculture.
6. Tax increases must be voted on by affected voters.
7. Removal of the state portion of the sales tax on all farm equipment.
8. Support the ag exemption for the overtime payroll rules.
9. Support raising the state's estate tax exemption to match the federal estate tax exemption.

WAWG supports to promote and continually update the study on the value of ag tax preferences to the state of Washington.

WAWG supports efforts to retain or improve our agriculture tax preferences which assist us in competing in a domestic and international marketplace.

WAWG opposes any requirements that a farmer utilizing an agricultural tax preference must provide certain employee benefits such as medical, dental or retirement benefits to qualify for said tax preference.

WAWG supports repealing or making the mandatory long term care tax voluntary.

WAWG opposes any increases to payroll taxes.

WAWG opposes any tax on employers to subsidize the cost for childcare.

REGULATORY REFORM

WAWG supports legislative and administrative efforts to enact and implement state regulatory reforms that would reduce regulatory burdens on individuals and businesses.

WAWG supports the concept that whenever governmental actions adversely affect the value or use of private property, the owner must be fairly compensated at market value.

WAWG will work with all organized user groups, state agencies and the legislature to ensure departmental rule making is consistent with legislative intent and to promote an efficient and responsive management process in the state of Washington.

WAWG supports the public right to know who has filed an environmental quality management complaint.

WAWG supports efforts to enact legislation requiring review of all agency budget programs or minimum of once every ten years, in efforts to cut wasteful spending and programs not meeting their intended reasons for implementations.

STATE AGENCIES

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Department of Agriculture

WAWG positions on Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) issues are:

1. Supports continued WSDA administration of the regulation of agricultural chemical use versus Department of Ecology or Department of Health.
2. Supports continued WSDA administration of the grain inspection program versus federal administration.
3. Supports funding for the waste pesticide collection programs.
4. Supports maintaining legislative appropriations to WSDA at levels, which allow the department to perform its legislated responsibilities efficiently and effectively.
5. Supports funding for pesticide applicator training program which educates handlers and applicators on how to use pesticides safely and effectively.

WAWG supports maintaining the WSDA as a standalone agency and that they take the lead on any agriculture related issue.

WAWG supports the Conservation Commission to remain as an independent agency.

WAWG supports the funding of Washington State trade promotion for expanding grain markets.

WAWG supports WSDA/WSU/WSCIA wheat seed quality assurance program that includes continued screening to validate the integrity of our certified seed supply.

WAWG supports legislation to allow a producer to choose to have their submitted grain sample inspected and graded by Washington State Department of Agriculture when delivering to warehouse operator or commodity dealer for storage or sale.

WAWG supports paying reasonable pesticide registration and licensing fees to maintain a robust pesticide safety program.

Department of Ecology

WAWG supports funding for conservation districts to assist landowners and operators to implement necessary conservation practices to maintain clean water.

WAWG believes Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) should be determined by landowners, operators and local conservation experts.

WAWG supports a MOA between the DOE and local conservation districts.

WAWG supports participation in the DOE Ag and Water Quality Advisory Committee.

WAWG supports the use of the peer reviewed mapping of streams in Washington State for fish passage.

WAWG supports all practices implemented to improve water quality and reduce soil erosion should be voluntary. DOE must agree to let perennial commodity crops to be included in plans for soil erosion control.

977 WAWG opposes local, state, and federal programs that take agricultural land out of production
978 without just compensation for the period that the land is out of production.

979
980 WAWG supports a science-based approach to determining agriculture and water quality issues.
981

982 WAWG supports full funding of the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP).
983

984 WAWG supports the Climate Commitment Act paying producers or offering some type of credit
985 for the carbon sequestration practices they completed that year.

986
987 WAWG supports holding DOE accountable to find solutions to the Climate Commitment Act fuel
988 exemptions.

989
990 **Department of Employment Security**

991
992 WAWG supports cutting Employment Security unemployment insurance (UI) rates to reduce
993 any excessive surpluses in the UI account and opposes increased spending on training and
994 benefits programs.

995
996 WAWG opposes policies allowing striking workers to receive unemployment benefits.
997

998 **Department of Labor and Industries**

999
1000 WAWG positions on Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) issues are:
1001

- 1002 1. Opposes farm safety regulations that are burdensome and unnecessary.
- 1003 2. Requests direct mailings to growers of proposed and adopted changes to the
1004 Agricultural Safety Code in language easily understood by growers.
- 1005 3. Supports adoption of a more flexible industrial insurance system that would allow private
1006 insurance and group self-insurance.

1007
1008 WAWG will continue to work with other agricultural employer groups, the legislature, and L&I to
1009 ensure that both the content and the format of the Agricultural Safety Code are conducive to the
1010 maintenance of farm safety in our state.

1011
1012 WAWG will work with L&I to develop various strategies, such as the breaking out of rates,
1013 based on specific farm operations to keep the rates lower.

1014
1015 **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)**

1016
1017 WAWG shall regularly meet with the Commissioner of Public Lands, Department of Natural
1018 Resources (DNR) or his/her designated representatives to discuss issues of mutual concern.

1019
1020 WAWG opposes DNR and Fish and Wildlife aggressively acquiring and purchasing agricultural
1021 land to form any new land trusts for the state.

1022
1023 WAWG supports the Conservation Stewardship Program and Ag Land Easement (ALE)
1024 be eligible on State Trust Lands, managed by DNR.

1025
1026 WAWG opposes state agencies aggressively acquiring and purchasing agricultural land over a
1027 fair market value.

1028

1029 WAWG opposes state agencies acquiring new land until they are current with the (payment in
1030 lieu of taxes) PILT payments.

1031
1032 WAWG opposes DNR utilizing a highest and best use clause allowing early termination of
1033 agricultural leases without DNR paying penalties to the lessee for the remaining term of the
1034 lease.

1035
1036 **State Noxious Weed Board**

1037
1038 WAWG will work with the State Noxious Weed Board and the legislature to ensure that any
1039 amendments to the state noxious weed laws and regulations are necessary, practical, and
1040 effective.

1041
1042 **EDUCATION**

1043
1044 WAWG encourages its members and leaders to:

- 1045
- 1046 1. Communicate and cooperate with other agricultural organizations and companies
1047 (partnerships) to collectively influence agricultural policy.
 - 1048 2. Have an active and frequent presence in Olympia.
 - 1049 3. Utilize the expertise of the WAWG lobbyist to inform the membership and help direct
1050 WAWG policy in Olympia.
 - 1051 4. Individually get involved in local and state political processes and work for the election of
1052 candidates favorable to agriculture.
 - 1053 5. Inform non-agricultural legislators of the value, needs and importance of agriculture in
1054 the state.

1055
1056 WAWG will monitor attempts to further restrict the freedoms of teaching our trade to interested
1057 children and young people.

1058
1059 WAWG opposes rules and regulations adversely effecting employment of young people on
1060 farms as long as adequate safety and educational training measures are maintained

1061
1062 WAWG support states' efforts that ask county commissioners to formally request in writing that
1063 the state and federal governments direct their employees do the following:

- 1064
- 1065 1. Consult with each respective county prior to implementing any laws, statutes, or US
1066 codes;
 - 1067 2. Follow and adhere to the afore-mentioned laws, statutes, or USCs, which would affect
1068 the economy, customs and culture of their county.

1069
1070 WAWG opposes any state laws or regulations, which are more restrictive than the 1987 federal
1071 manual for defining wetlands. Any such laws or regulations must require that all defining factors
1072 be present: soil type, water, air, plant type, animal, human, and energy (SWAPAHE).

1073
1074
1075
1076 **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**

1077
1078 WAWG will pursue all efforts to keep a well-maintained West Coast Trade Corridor. We will do
1079 so by helping to maintain or improve roadway, rail, and river (navigation) freight corridors.

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ROAD

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WAWG supports funds collected from any transportation source or mode be allocated back solely for transportation uses.

WAWG requests the Washington State Transportation Commission and WSDOT develop a statewide, long-term Freight Plan for Washington State that incorporates both infrastructure and funding plans.

WAWG will educate wheat farmers and continue to lobby against additional Interstate and Intrastate licensing issues for farm trucks and semi-tractor/trailer vehicles.

WAWG supports a farm-to-market exemption from interstate commerce regulatory enforcement to allow movement of a commodity from the farm to its first point of in-state delivery where title is transferred within the state of origin.

WAWG requests the WSDOT and county road departments continue annual roadside spraying programs for the abatement of weeds.

WAWG encourages the Washington State Patrol and WSDOT to expedite the implementation of the MAP-21 federal transportation law, especially the provisions exempting farm vehicles.

WAWG opposes road usage charges based on a pay-per-mile system which disproportionately impacts rural areas.

WAWG supports the repeal of the law tying Washington to California's vehicle emission standards which phases out gas powered vehicles and trucks.

WAWG supports using sales tax revenue from the purchase of vehicles for the state transportation budget and that such funds be protected by the 18th amendment of the state constitution.

RAIL

WAWG supports the Palouse River Coulee City Rail Authority efforts to rebuild, refurbish, maintain and reconnect the short line rail system.

WAWG supports federal and state assistance for branch line track rehabilitation.

WAWG continues to encourage WSDOT to ensure the return and use of Washington Grain Train cars primarily on short lines in the Pacific Northwest AND to purchase additional Grain Train Cars when economically feasible.

WAWG encourages the state of Washington to ensure the mainline rail carriers provide grain cars to shippers in an economically fair and timely manner to ensure that state investment in short line infrastructure is not marginalized.

WAWG urges members of Congress, the Surface Transportation Board and other responsible government entities, to prevent America's railroads from implementing unnecessary new railcar standards that would impede the timely and economical transportation of anhydrous ammonia, an essential fertilizer for wheat and the feedstock used to produce other nitrogen products.

1133 WAWG asks the legislature and WSDOT to use their influence to maintain trackage rights and
1134 access to the rail line to Wallula for future use.

1135
1136 WAWG supports increased Surface Transportation Board monitoring of railroad maintenance
1137 and improvements.

1138
1139 WAWG opposes the use of inverse rate structures by railroads and supports the
1140 nondiscriminatory geographic rates.

1141
1142 WAWG shall pursue all facets of rail issues that will provide relief to wheat growers on rail rates
1143 and service.

1144
1145 WAWG supports maintenance and expansion of intermodal services that service
1146 agricultural products.

1147

1148 RIVERS

1149

1150 WAWG will continue membership of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association and will hold
1151 a position on its board of trustees.

1152

1153 WAWG supports a strong barge, river, and port system with continued federal and state
1154 funding for operations, maintenance and improvement of the region's inland waterways,
1155 infrastructure, and coastal harbor channels. WAWG will work with other groups to
1156 reduce the impact of the river closure maintenance.

1157

1158 WAWG encourages Washington State legislators to actively support and pursue rivers
1159 (navigation) as an integral part of freight mobility in relieving rail and road congestion.

1160

1161 WAWG supports retaining congressional authority over navigation and the other
1162 congressionally authorized purposes of the federal Columbia-Snake River System
1163 projects.

1164

1165 WAWG opposes the removal or breaching of any dams, and excessive spill and flow
1166 augmentation within the Columbia/Snake River system.

1167

1168 WAWG supports development of biologically effective salmon recovery measures that
1169 maintain the existing federally authorized, multiple-use river system and invest in the
1170 addition of fish passage over Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee dams, to expand salmon
1171 habitat up to Canada.

1172

1173 WAWG strongly endorses the routine maintenance of the Columbia-Snake River
1174 Navigational Channel at authorized depth via dredging and/or by adjusting reservoir pool
1175 levels.

1176

1177 WAWG supports funding for short- and long-term repair needs of jetties at the mouth of
1178 the Columbia River.

1179

1180 WAWG supports Columbia River Treaty efforts which protect the viability of US
1181 navigation, hydropower, irrigation, and flood control.

1182

1183 WAWG supports a flood control approach that does not cause impacts to the safety or
1184 efficiency of navigation on the Columbia or Snake rivers.

1185 WAWG is supportive of voluntary conservation programs which offer flexibility and fairly
1186 compensate farmers for riparian protection. WAWG opposes programs that mandate riparian
1187 protection buffers based on Site Potential Tree Height (SPTH) as it threatens the future viability
1188 of agriculture by removing significant portions of productive farmland out of production.
1189

1190 **MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLIC RELATIONS INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

1191 **EDUCATION**

1192
1193
1194 WAWG shall actively produce public information and educational programs in order to increase
1195 the awareness of the wheat industry that drives agriculture's importance to the state and
1196 nation's economy.
1197

1198 WAWG encourages the Washington Grain Commission and Washington Wheat Foundation to
1199 continue funding public informational programs.
1200

1201 WAWG urges the WGC to continue to fund and assist the Wheat Foods Council and other
1202 organizations dedicated to addressing the public regarding wheat's nutritional value.
1203

1204 Each county association of wheat growers is encouraged to annually help fund agriculture
1205 education programs.
1206

1207 WAWG will maintain an active website, linked to other wheat industry sites for complete
1208 information and education for members and the public.
1209

1210 **VALUE ADDED SERVICE, PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS**

1211
1212 WAWG will engage various companies to offer optional value-added services to individual
1213 WAWG members and associates. Officers, Executive Committee, staff and the WAWG
1214 Membership Committee will review and make recommendations to the WAWG Board of
1215 Directors for final approval.
1216

1217 **MEMBERSHIP**

1218
1219 WAWG encourages each county to:
1220

- 1221 1. Recruit all wheat producers as members and associate partners.
- 1222 2. Upgrade individual membership levels.
1223

1224 Optimize levels of communication on the national, state, and local county level through
1225 newsletters, websites, Wheat Life and email.
1226

1227 State committees should maintain continuity in their plans and goals:
1228

- 1229 1. Each county should have a member assigned to each state
1230 committee.
- 1231 2. Committee chairmen shall receive a job description, instruction,
1232 and budget.
1233

1234 As representatives of WAWG, state officers and executive committee members should not
1235 publicly endorse political candidates.
1236

1237 Membership is the grassroots of WAWG.

1238

1239 Membership fees can change with growers needs. The following membership levels will be
1240 current until such time as the membership with proper procedure shall choose to change
1241 amounts (as outlined in Article X – Conventions or by Board motion to be reconfirmed at state
1242 annual meeting.)

1243

1244 Lifetime member dues remain as a permanent endowment (regardless of death) and only the
1245 interest from the permanent endowment may be used as non-restricted funds.

1246 Only those lifetime members joining WAWG prior to November 21, 2009, shall receive a
1247 complimentary convention registration.

1248

1249 Harvest Plus Lifetime Membership dues will be 20 times that of the grower membership level.
1250 As of 11/15/2023 the amount is \$3,000 and payments over a three-year billing period are
1251 allowed and is non-refundable.

1252

1253 The dues for regular membership (voting) shall be:

- 1254 • Grower/Landlord- \$150 per person per annum,
- 1255 • Family - \$250 for up to 2 people per annum.
- 1256 • Partnership - \$600 for up to 5 people per annum.
- 1257 • Convention – \$720 for 2 individuals, membership, and convention registration

1258

1259 The dues for student nonvoting membership

- 1260 • Education - \$90.00 per annum, Wheat Life magazine and Green Sheet

1261

1262 The designated dues for Associate Members (non-voting) shall be:

- 1263 • Level 5 Industry Supporter - \$250 per annum membership
- 1264 • Level 4 VIP - \$500 per annum, Membership \$250, Wheat Life credit \$250
- 1265 • Level 3 CEO - \$1,800 per annum, Membership \$250, Wheat Life credit \$1,050,
1266 AMMO \$500
- 1267 • Level 2 Convention Sponsor - \$6,000 per annum, Membership \$250, Wheat Life credit
1268 \$2,750, AMMO \$1,000, Convention Silver \$2,000
- 1269 • Level 1 Platinum Sponsor - \$10,000 per annum, Membership \$250, Wheat Life credit
1270 \$2,750, AMMO \$1,000, Convention Platinum \$6,000

1271

1272 The state association will provide Wheat Life magazine and either Green Sheet Alert via email
1273 or Green Sheet newsletter at all levels of membership.

1274

1275 The state association shall retain eighty-five (85%) percent of membership payments and fifteen
1276 (15%) percent shall be returned to the counties for their efforts towards membership. Lifetime
1277 member fees are excluded from the 85/15% amounts to be retained by the state and counties
1278 respectfully. County paybacks will be paid approximately twice a year.

1279

1280 Members are encouraged to donate to Legislative Action Fund, Washington Wheat PAC and
1281 Barley Boosters for state and national legislative lobbying, and to the Environment Stewardship
1282 Fund for fighting environmental issues that arise and directly affect growers.

1283

1284 ***2025 WAWG Resolutions passed at the 2024 Washington Association of Wheat***
1285 ***Growers Annual Meeting November 20th, 2024***

1286