

1
2 **Washington Association of Wheat Growers**
3 **2026 Resolutions**
4

5 **NATIONAL LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**
6

7 WAWG supports recognizing outcome based agricultural practices as a benefit to the
8 environment. Further, any policy or regulation regarding conservation practices and
9 technological advancements that aid in the reduction of carbon emissions should be
10 administered through the farm bill or the private sector. The wheat industry should be fully
11 involved in discussions and development of any policy or legislation relating to climate change.
12

13 WAWG supports a loan program that is based on the cost of production for each class of wheat
14 (FAPRI) instead of being based on the market price of wheat.
15

16 WAWG supports Posted County Prices (PCP) that are based on how wheat is marketed.
17 Examples include 14% protein for DNS, 12% protein for Hard White, 11.5% protein for Hard
18 Red Winter wheat, and 10.5% protein for Soft White wheat.
19

20 WAWG encourages USDA to keep the wheat loan rate comparable with competitive crops, so
21 wheat production is not at a farm program disadvantage.
22

23 WAWG supports refinement to the grower questionnaires from National Ag Statistic Services
24 (NASS) that would reduce the length of surveys with the elimination of redundant questions and
25 the timely use of farm operator level data already reported to Farm Service Agency and Risk
26 Management Agency.
27

28 WAWG recommends that NASS include club wheat as a category in surveys where seeded
29 acres, production and stored bushels are required. Stocks of club wheat shall be reported in the
30 June 1 stocks report, and acres and production in the September 30th Small Grains Report.
31

32 WAWG supports allowing producers to form health insurance purchasing cooperatives and/or
33 associations, including across state lines.
34

35 WAWG encourages policies that bring rural communication (voice and internet) to service levels
36 comparable to that available to urban citizens.
37

38 WAWG supports organizations, who are working to make the voice of agriculture heard in
39 discussions related to climate change.
40

41 WAWG supports the implementation of the Growing Climate Solutions Act to provide credible
42 information to growers about voluntary ecosystem service markets and increase farmer
43 engagement in USDA oversight.
44

45 WAWG supports a role for extension and/or other agencies in assisting farmers in making
46 educated decisions on carbon markets, including but not limited to contract review and related
47 information.
48

49 WAWG supports the inclusion of wheat in all production systems including when used as a
50 cover crop.
51

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

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

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

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

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

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

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

77
78 WAWG supports science-based dietary guidance that upholds the nutritional value of whole,
79 refined, and enriched grain foods as part of a balanced diet and opposes policy frameworks or
80 public messaging that mischaracterize them as unhealthy or “ultra-processed.”

81
82 WAWG supports efforts to strengthen competition in agricultural input markets and reduce the
83 cost of production. WAWG supports policies and actions that promote competitive pricing,
84 supply chain resilience, and fair access and pricing for fertilizer, seed, fuel, pesticides,
85 equipment, and other essential inputs necessary for wheat production.

86
87 **BARLEY**

88
89 WAWG encourages USDA to keep the barley loan rate comparable with competitive crops, so
90 barley production is not at a farm program disadvantage.

91
92 **FARM PROGRAM**

93
94 WAWG opposes means testing for any Farm Program payment or crop insurance subsidy.

95
96 WAWG does not support any form of government owned reserves.

97
98 WAWG supports the present system of electing farmers to the Farm Service Agency (FSA)
99 County Committee.

100
101 WAWG will work with and lobby appropriate officials to continue the policy that allows the FSA
102 county committee to make “Good Faith Determinations” each year.

103

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

106
107 WAWG supports the implementation of the conservation portion of the farm bill. However, we do
108 not support the use of other program funds to support the conservation part of the program.

109
110 WAWG supports FSA deducting all shipping/handling and quality discounts from all commodity
111 loan proceeds.

112
113 WAWG supports adequate funding for local FSA county offices.

114
115 WAWG supports a consistent ARC floor price with the final PLC reference price.

116
117 WAWG supports a higher statutory reference price for PLC.

118
119 WAWG supports permanently eliminating the annual ARC/PLC election. Instead of requiring
120 producers to choose each year, WAWG supports an automatic trigger that selects whichever
121 program provides the higher payment.

122
123 **RISK MANAGEMENT**

124
125 WAWG supports adoption of a consistent USDA wide pack factor when calculating bushels of
126 stored grain to more accurately reflect actual quantity.

127
128 WAWG will continue to work with the Risk Management Agency (RMA) to improve the wheat
129 policy and recommends the following changes in the wheat contract:

- 130
131 1. RMA should allow the regional office the ability to make changes in the final planting
132 dates when agronomic conditions are such that many farmers, while farming using good
133 economical and agronomic practices, cannot meet the final planting date of the policy.

134
135 WAWG urges RMA to allow producers to select different coverage levels and price elections for
136 irrigated and non-irrigated, and different types and classes of wheat.

137
138 WAWG recommends the RMA allow crop insurance proceeds on Schedule F be included as
139 income for whole farm crop insurance purposes.

140
141 WAWG recommends that RMA address the issues of indemnity of claims and APH adjustments
142 for uninsured causes (such as wildlife damage) due to no fault of the grower.

143
144 WAWG recommends that RMA attach full insurance coverage at time of planting for replant
145 payment purposes.

146
147 WAWG supports programs that promote outreach and education concerning RMA programs.

148
149 WAWG opposes linking conservation compliance to crop insurance program participation.

150
151 WAWG supports the option of a new landowner using the APH yield from the previous operator
152 regardless of acreage in the county.

153
154 WAWG supports changes in the federal crop insurance policy to allow all classes of wheat to be
155 insured as separate crops.

156
157 WAWG supports a ten-year average APH for insurance purposes if given the option.
158
159 WAWG supports crop insurance special provisions that allow lower discounts for quality in all
160 classes of wheat.
161
162 WAWG opposes quality discounts in the calculation of Actual Production History (APH) values.
163
164 WAWG supports additional flexibility in prevented planting provisions which favor history of
165 participation instead of current year planting requirements for eligibility of the Enterprise Unit
166 structure.
167
168 WAWG supports the expansion of RMA margin protection insurance products for winter and
169 spring wheat to all producing counties.
170
171 WAWG supports efforts to improve crop insurance quality adjustments by refining loss
172 provisions, discount factors, and tables to more accurately reflect marketplace discounts,
173 thereby providing wheat growers with more effective coverage during periods of quality related
174 losses.
175
176 WAWG supports efforts to promote a broad and accessible network of crop insurance providers
177 across all regions, ensuring that growers have sufficient access to qualified agents and diverse
178 policy options to effectively meet their risk management needs.
179
180 WAWG recognizes the soil and environmental benefits of wheat in a crop rotation and therefore
181 supports intentionally seeded winter wheat being eligible for classification as a cover crop for
182 NRCS and climate-smart programs, while not impacting its eligibility as a harvestable cash crop
183 insurable through crop insurance and other safety net programs.

184
185 WAWG supports crop insurance covering all fire damage with the exception of grower caused.
186

187 **TAXES**

188
189 WAWG supports income averaging, Farm Account for Rural and Ranch Management (FARRM),
190 allow investment credits, favor capital gains-type investments, would eliminate federal estate
191 taxes permanently, retain cash basis accounting and would let all types of entities deduct health
192 insurance premiums.
193

194 WAWG supports the elimination of the Federal estate tax or maintaining a minimum level of
195 \$15 million per individual estate tax exemption indexed to inflation, retaining a step up in basis.
196

197 WAWG supports the exclusion of farm rental income from self-employment taxes.
198

199 WAWG supports the Internal Revenue Service (IRS) net income (i.e. Schedule F) figures for
200 determining agriculture's financial position.
201

202 WAWG supports reinstatement of the following for C-Corps: the 15% corporate tax rate for the
203 first \$50,000 in taxable income, the 100% deduction for farm meals, and the domestic
204 production activities deductions (199a) for C-Corps with less than \$1 million gross revenue.
205

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

208
209 WAWG supports an increase in the mileage exemption for heavy highway vehicle use tax from
210 7,500 to 20,000 miles for agricultural vehicles, and the simplification of applying for exemption.

211
212 **MARKETING COMMITTEE**

213
214 **TRADE**

215
216 WAWG supports the continued donation of US-produced commodities to meet Food Aid
217 distribution needs, not cash donations.

218
219 WAWG urges international harmonization of scientific standards and trade rules.
220 WAWG recommends USW and NAWG work to see markets adhere to CODEX standards
221 regarding import specification.

222
223 WAWG supports an exemption for the PNW states relevant to the Jones Act to allow natural
224 gas products, anhydrous ammonia and grain to be delivered by foreign vessels to and from
225 ports on the west coast.

226
227 WAWG urges Congress, the administration, and the USDA to continue to facilitate and
228 encourage trade with all of our world customers with innovative credit programs.

229
230 WAWG supports increased funding for the Market Access Program (MAP) and Foreign Market
231 Development (FMD) and continued funding for the Ag Trade Promotion (ATP) Program.

232
233 WAWG opposes any trade distorting policies that interfere with the international shipment of
234 grain. Examples include but are not limited to: unilateral sanctions, embargoes, violations of
235 contract sanctity, cargo preference laws, Turkish flour dumping, SPS issues, State Trading
236 Enterprises (STE's) and the withholding of food as leverage to achieve political objectives.

237
238 WAWG urges US trade negotiators to protect domestic farm policies from being negotiated
239 away to benefit other sectors of the US economy.

240
241 WAWG calls for an open border with Canada that provides for reciprocal bilateral wheat trade
242 and encourages cooperation with Canadian producers and industry to achieve an open border
243 with reciprocal access.

244
245 WAWG supports protecting non-trade-distorting and minimally trade-distorting domestic farm
246 programs that maintain an adequate safety net.

247
248 WAWG opposes the Turkish government's use of disruptive incentives to its milling industry to
249 export flour, regardless of price to export markets. Such exports clearly constitute dumping.

249
250 WAWG supports US trade officials working with the impacted nations to impose a reasonable
anti-dumping duty on Turkish flour imports.

251
252 WAWG supports bilateral and multilateral trade agreements that are favorable to the U.S. wheat
253 industry as a top priority for USTR (US Trade Representative). WAWG opposes any withdrawal
prior to any new trade agreement ratification.

254
255 WAWG supports the Export-Import Bank (Ex-Im) of the United States as a mechanism to
256 finance international sales that would not otherwise occur.

257 WAWG encourages the Administration and USTR's office to fully comply and enforce WTO
258 rules and regulations, utilizing the trade dispute settlement system as the best way to eliminate
259 foreign trade barriers.

260
261 WAWG supports Trade Promotion Authority (Fast Track), to be fully utilized for brokering trade
262 agreements.

263
264 WAWG supports maintaining the FGIS grading requirements for contrasting classes of wheat.

265
266 WAWG supports USDA administration and funding of all in-kind food assistance programs.

267
268 **FARM PROGRAM**

269
270 WAWG will promote, develop, or pursue adequate state or federal funding for any and all farm
271 programs on marketing and export.

272
273 WAWG supports development of a sound agricultural export policy to ensure U.S.
274 competitiveness in the world market.

275
276 WAWG shall encourage reduction of the regulatory and tax burdens on agriculture and
277 supporting industries.

278
279 **MARKETING**

280
281 Wheat and barley should be marketed on a 12% fixed moisture basis.

282
283 US Grain Standards should reflect and identify end-use characteristics of grain, foreign or
284 domestic, as set and approved by the Federal Grain Inspection Service. An end-use certificate
285 should remain with the grain even though possession or identity may change.

286
287 WAWG encourages grain segregation based on customer needs or market demands.

288
289 **RESEARCH**

290
291 WAWG supports restoring funding for the IMPACT Center (International Marketing Program for
292 Agricultural Commodities & Trade) at Washington State University (WSU) to research
293 international markets, product development, and to assess the implementation of policy
294 changes for the U.S. wheat industry.

295
296 WAWG supports continued funding through the WGC for WSU/USDA-ARS Minimum Quality
297 Standards project - G & E study. ("G" represents the genetic component of wheat quality and
298 "E" represents the environmental component)

299
300 WAWG supports efforts of the Washington State Crop Improvement Association (WSCIA) to
301 control jointed goat grass and noxious weeds and urges growers to use caution when
302 purchasing seed from questionable sources.

303
304 WAWG encourages other states to adopt a zero tolerance for jointed goat grass in certified
305 seed and to enforce existing standards for all noxious weeds.

306
307 WAWG supports research funding for an alternative wheat utilization market and encourages
308 the commercial sale of value-added grain products for export.

309
310 WAWG encourages additional financial support from state and federal agencies to develop new
311 value added industries for the use of straw and grains, including but not limited to tax incentives,
312 building code changes, low interest loans and grants.

313
314 WAWG supports research to develop uniform, replicable measures of carbon sequestration.
315

316
317 **NATURAL RESOURCES COMMITTEE**

318
319 **CONSERVATION PROGRAMS**

320
321 WAWG supports laws and regulations that allow Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program
322 (CREP) funds to be used to implement conservation practices for either endangered species
323 recovery or clean water.

324
325 WAWG opposes public acquisition of private land without providing for the loss in property tax
326 revenue to local governments.

327
328 WAWG supports federally sponsored programs promoting all natural resource conservation
329 programs provided they include strong local input and control.

330
331 WAWG supports tax law changes and cost share programs that would provide incentives for
332 producers to invest in equipment that is designed for conservation.

333
334 Long-term resource retirement or rental program payments should reflect the productive value
335 of the land, protect its crop history base, and not require additional restrictive measures upon
336 lands returned to production.

337
338 WAWG requests that agricultural representatives and producers be involved in the planning and
339 implementation of government programs and regulations at federal, state and local levels to
340 ensure that regulations are socially and economically feasible for growers.

341
342 WAWG supports NRCS' Local Working Group process to remain in local conservation district
343 control.

344
345 WAWG supports consolidation of conservation programs as long as flexibility in implementation
346 of the program is maintained and/or increased.

347
348 WAWG acknowledges that soil erosion, to some degree, is a naturally occurring event, but
349 through the use of research, technology and BMPs the land will remain productive for
350 generations in the future.

351
352 WAWG urges state and federal agencies to utilize voluntary, incentive-based conservation
353 practices when regulating the Clean Water and Clean Air acts, rather than issuing regional or
354 statewide mandates.

355
356 WAWG recognizes NRCS, Washington State Conservation Commission and local conservation
357 districts as the authorities in conservation technical guidance throughout the state and urges
358 state and federal regulators to also recognize them as the authorities and support funding them
359 accordingly.

360

361 WAWG opposes a federal or state agency requiring that a landowner install a prescribed
362 practice on their land as a precondition to receiving any other federal or state cost share
363 funding.
364
365 WAWG supports maintaining the trust relationship between USDA and farmers and opposes
366 NRCS using employees from other organizations that would violate that trust.
367
368 WAWG supports adequate funding for NRCS technical assistance and implementations of Farm
369 Bill conservation programs.
370
371 WAWG supports efforts to implement quality assurances within NRCS programs in a consistent,
372 accountable manner.
373
374 WAWG supports RCPP that enhances the sustainability of wheat production in Washington
375 State.
376
377 WAWG supports identification of roles and responsibilities of USDA agencies through
378 collaboration of data.
379
380 WAWG supports any federal or state agency (except for emergency services) to give notice to
381 the landowner or tenant prior to the inspection of their property.
382
383 WAWG supports transparency from private to public, state, and federal agencies, when utilizing
384 drones or other forms of electronic data.
385
386 WAWG supports ensuring that organic producers are held to the same standards as those set
387 for conventional production.
388
389 WAWG supports tax benefits for farmers to encourage ongoing management of conservation
390 practices and options for producers to begin or expand conservation/carbon sequestration and
391 Greenhouse Gas (GHG) reduction efforts.
392
393 WAWG supports programs that pay producers for their ongoing climate farming practices.
394
395 WAWG supports the implementation of a Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) on wheat with a specific
396 focus on PNW grain production.
397
398 WAWG supports NRCS adding additional enhancements that would help wheat growers be
399 eligible for NRCS programs.
400
401 WAWG is supportive of voluntary conservation programs which offer flexibility and fairly
402 compensate farmers for riparian protection. WAWG opposes programs that mandate riparian
403 protection buffers based on Site Potential Tree Height (SPTH) as it threatens the future viability
404 of agriculture by removing significant portions of productive farmland out of production.
405

CONSERVATION RESERVE PROGRAM (CRP)

406
407
408
409 WAWG supports the use of EBI score criteria that does not change the life of the farm bill.
410
411 WAWG supports the establishment of a conservation priority area (CPA) for all endangered
412 species and/or priority species that is exempt from the current state CPA zone acre cap.

413
414 The CRP payment exemptions and the death benefits that apply to the landlord's heirs should
415 also apply to the operator's heirs.
416
417 WAWG supports CRP when it is part of the economic and environmental portfolio of a working
418 farm.
419
420 WAWG supports adjusting EBI numbers to reflect the fact that CRP cover has habitat value for
421 wildlife.
422
423 CRP plant stands should be kept as weed-free as possible.
424
425 CRP plant stand evaluations should be based on original certification standards.
426
427 WAWG supports increased CRP rental rates for water way buffers.
428
429 WAWG supports expanding the Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program to
430 include intermittent, ephemeral and perennial waters.
431
432 WAWG encourages increased communication with federal and state agencies that are
433 writing rules and regulations, standards and technical guidance that have potential major
434 impacts to our natural resources at the local level without local input.
435
436 WAWG supports CSP being recognized as a conservation practice for CRP bid
437 submission.
438
439 WAWG supports efforts to realign CRP contract duration for continuous and general
440 CRP contracts thus allowing the entire field to be returned to production at the same
441 point in time.
442
443 WAWG supports separate payment limitations between CRP, CBS (Contour Buffer
444 Strips), CREP (Conservation Reserve Enhancement Program) and SAFE (State Acres
445 for Wildlife Enhancement) among priority areas.
446
447 WAWG supports raising the individual payment limitation for CRP from \$50,000 to at
448 least \$150,000.
449
450 WAWG supports research into how acreage is determined in the Conservation Priority
451 Area (CPA) area.
452
453 WAWG requests financial accommodation from Farm Service Agency in cases of natural
454 disasters that impair previously established CRP stands.
455
456 WAWG supports the allocation of higher bid points to CRP for farmland that is located in
457 12 inch or below precipitation zones to address air or water quality concerns.
458
459 WAWG supports revising the CRP-TIP program to remove the limitations on payments
460 to the retiring farmer or operator if the "covered farmer" (TIP application) is a family
461 member as defined in section 1001 of the Food Security act of 1985.
462
463 WAWG supports the Secretary of Ag to have the authority to waive the 25% CRP cap in
464 a county that has designated CPA (Critical Priority Areas) in that county.

465
466 WAWG supports the continual maintenance of CRP and the mid management practice
467 cost share.

468
469 WAWG supports a review of the technical aspects of the CRP program.
470

471 WAWG supports a regionally based CRP program that accounts for the different
472 climates, soils, and agro-economic conditions across all wheat regions.

473
474 WAWG supports CRP stand requirements to correlate to rainfall zones.
475

476 **CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM (CSP)**

477
478 Conservation Stewardship Program (CSP) payment limitation rules should be changed to follow
479 standard FSA "person determination" guidelines.

480
481 WAWG supports a CSP program will be administered by FSA with technical work done by
482 NRCS.

483
484 A producer who farms state and federally owned lands should be eligible to participate in CSP.

485
486 WAWG supports raising the individual payment limitation for CSP.

487
488 WAWG supports continued funding for the CSP program, if the program is cut or phased out we
489 support those funds being redirected to the EQIP programs rather than RCPP and easements.

490
491 WAWG supports working with NRCS to identify potential practices that benefit the environment
492 by agronomic zones.

493
494 WAWG supports an easy to navigate program that pays producers yearly for the carbon
495 sequestration practices they completed that year.

496 **ENDANGERED SPECIES ACT (ESA)**

497
498
499 WAWG supports modifying the ESA to take into consideration the economic impact of
500 recovering endangered species.

501
502 WAWG believes that actions taken because of the Endangered Species Act or the Clean Water
503 Act should be economically viable, biologically sound and respecting landowners' rights.

504
505 WAWG will work for economic stability in counties that have land in CRP and species that are
506 listed as threatened or endangered under the Endangered Species Act.

507
508 WAWG supports an ESA baseline that includes dams.

509
510 WAWG supports efforts to update ESA law implementation to protect listed species by
511 developing and providing biologically sound, scientifically based, and cost-effective measures
512 implemented in a way that maintains strong regional economies.

513
514 WAWG supports requiring local consultation before the implementation of any action done
515 under the authority of ESA.

516

WATER

517
518
519 WAWG supports local level participation in regulatory decision-making activities impacting water
520 quality, quantity, instream flow and habitat use.
521
522 WAWG opposes federal, state, or local designation of any agricultural practice as a point source
523 of pollution. Agriculture crop production has historically been regarded as a “non-point” source
524 of pollution under the Clean Water Act (CWA).
525
526 WAWG supports reforming the water relinquishment statute to preserve existing water rights.
527
528 WAWG supports continuing development of the US Bureau of Reclamation (USBR) Columbia
529 Basin Project to minimize groundwater declines within the Odessa Groundwater Management
530 Subarea. (Chapter 173-130A WAC)
531
532 WAWG supports keeping an exempt well statute.
533
534 WAWG opposes any action that would reduce agricultural priorities of any of the state’s water or
535 change the first-in-time, first-in-right doctrine, as intended by Western Water Law.
536
537 WAWG urges members of congress and the administration to ensure that CWA permits are not
538 required for labeled applications of labeled crop protection products.
539
540 WAWG opposes changing the definition in the CWA from “navigable waterways” to “all waters”
541 in the US.
542
543 WAWG encourages EPA to use the WSDA Water Monitoring Data results during their rule
544 making on agricultural issues.
545
546 WAWG opposes unreasonable buffer zones that exceed the pesticide label recommendations
547 for waterways that are not based on sound science.
548
549 WAWG actively opposes an increase in water right application fees and opposes instituting an
550 annual water management service fee.
551
552 WAWG will work with the state legislature, agricultural organizations, etc. to explore rewriting
553 the WAC or propose new legislation that improves the potential visual citation process and
554 improves the working relationship with landowners, managers of our natural resources.
555
556 WAWG encourages agricultural group participation in the decision-making process that defines
557 “substantial potential to pollute” in Washington state.
558
559 WAWG encourages the Washington State Department of Ecology to continue to convene the
560 agriculture and water quality advisory committee and WAWG remains a member.
561
562 WAWG opposes an expansive interpretation of US Army Corps “Waters of the US” (WOTUS).
563
564 WAWG supports a legislative fix to the Washington State Supreme Court Foster decision to
565 allow out-of-kind mitigation to offset environmental impact for water permits.
566

AIR

567
568

569 WAWG supports the option of controlled open field burning as a tool in agriculture's effort to
570 implement integrated pest management, manage residue and improve soil conservation
571 practices.
572
573 WAWG opposes changes to the Washington Clean Air Act that will negatively affect agriculture.
574
575 WAWG supports the Department of Ecology's program to educate both the public and growers
576 about smoke management for public health.
577
578 WAWG supports field burning regulations based on Best Management Practices (BMPs)
579 administered at the local level.
580
581 WAWG will work with the appropriate agencies to refine BMPs to reduce emission from ag
582 burning.
583
584 WAWG will continue to work with federal and state agencies and university researchers to study
585 the origins and effects of naturally occurring fugitive dust.
586
587 WAWG opposes any agricultural dust and air quality particle size regulations.
588
589 WAWG opposes air quality restrictions that reduce particle size and micron limitations to air
590 quality that results in a net loss to the Washington agricultural industry.
591
592 WAWG supports that the Agriculture Burning Task Force continue to set the burn permit fee as
593 stated in current law.
594
595 WAWG supports the Department of Ecology maintaining a seven day per week agricultural burn
596 smoke management program.
597
598 WAWG will work to ensure that air quality standards for ozone will not impact the Agriculture
599 Burning Task Force agreements.
600
601 WAWG supports collaboration and clear communication on the notification process for allowed
602 ag burning between fire districts, Clean Air Authorities, and Department of Ecology.
603
604 WAWG does not support any cap and trade, carbon sequestration, or climate change provisions
605 without being a full partner in the development of any policy or legislation.
606
607 WAWG supports market-based legislation that is fair, affordable, and achievable using the best
608 scientific information, and does not make wheat growers less competitive in the global market or
609 add undue costs.

611 ENERGY

612
613 WAWG supports development of alternative sources of energy that benefit small grain
614 producers if they are not more expensive than hydropower, or cause rates to go up.
615
616 WAWG urges that climate change proposals consider production of foodstuffs a national priority
617 and avoid negative impact upon the costs and adequacy of supplies of essential inputs used to
618 produce crops.
619
620 WAWG endorses all hydropower as a qualifying renewable resource.

621
622 WAWG supports a change in the Energy Independence Act that would allow utilities to delay
623 buying power from eligible renewable sources until their demand grows enough that they need
624 additional power.

625
626 WAWG opposes increasing the renewable portfolio standard or limiting the ability of utilities to
627 acquire new power sources if hydropower is not considered a qualifying renewable resource
628 under the Energy Independence Act.

629
630 WAWG supports opportunities to increase hydropower, nuclear energy, biomass, biogas,
631 hydrogen, renewable natural gas, renewable propane, and other low-carbon emitting sources of
632 energy.

633
634 WAWG supports the continued use of natural gas for grid reliability and energy affordability.

635
636 WAWG supports retaining and implementing the exemptions in the Climate Commitment Act
637 that exempts certain fuel used for agricultural use (i.e. on the farm and transporting ag products)
638 and making both exemptions permanent. WAWG supports the continuation of a state rebate
639 program through Department of Licensing to rebate farmers and haulers of farm products for
640 carbon fuel surcharges they have paid but not been reimbursed.

641
642 **CROP PROTECTION**

643
644 Registrations for agricultural chemicals in the US and Canada should be harmonized.

645
646 WAWG will work with pesticide manufacturers, regulatory agencies and research universities to
647 gain and maintain pesticide registrations that are recognized by all federal agencies.

648
649 WAWG supports increased federal funding for import food inspections.

650
651 WAWG recommends that imported food inspections be conducted by USDA.

652
653 WAWG supports the professional use of pesticides and best management practices.

654
655 WAWG opposes mandatory reporting of agricultural pesticide use to governmental agencies.

656
657 WAWG will study, comment on, or oppose any efforts, governmental or otherwise, to remove
658 the labels from commonly used agricultural pesticides in the Pacific Northwest.

659
660 WAWG supports the continued use of glyphosate for all applications.

661
662 WAWG opposes cancelling crop protection product labels or uses unless equivalent
663 replacement products are available.

664
665 WAWG opposes requirements that the applicator provide mandatory notification be given prior
666 to pesticide application.

667
668 **BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (BMP)**

669
670 Best Management Practices (BMP) and preservation of crop residue for Alternative
671 Conservation Systems (ACS) acreage should reflect local BMPs as developed and revised
672 locally. Conservation District boards should retain the authority to develop ACS.

673
674 WAWG will strive to ensure that all BMPs will be written to continue the economic sustainability
675 of current farm units.

676
677 WAWG requests federal and state agencies recognize local innovative conservation and BMPs
678 and give farmers credit for using practices that effectively protect the natural resources on their
679 farms.

680
681 WAWG will work with agencies to evaluate local BMPs that help protect ground water.

682
683 WAWG will work with all agricultural organizations to educate the DOE so that they adopt local
684 BMPs, farm plans, and continue to use the NRCS technical guidelines that will result in the
685 protection of the natural resources and water quality.

686
687 Direct seeding is a useful management tool for some circumstances in our state, but it should
688 never be a mandated best management practice for the whole state or specific regions.

689
690 WAWG will assist the WACD, Conservation Districts and Pacific Northwest Direct Seed
691 Association to work with NRCS at the state and national level so that the 329 and 345 standards
692 use RUSLE Soil Value at 30 and less. This will allow the choices and evaluation of equipment
693 with the grower and local NRCS staff.

694
695 WAWG supports that the NRCS change its rules to allow the counting of green growth (grower's
696 crop) in the calculation of residue for HEL compliance.

697
698 WAWG supports the Washington State Conservation Commission efforts to develop BMPs for
699 nonpoint pollution and riparian areas.

700
701 **RESEARCH COMMITTEE**

702
703 WAWG strongly encourages the prioritization of wheat and barley research, including Varietal
704 Development, Production and Marketing:

- 705
706
- 707 1. All aspects of diseases, insects, and weeds management including development
708 of resistant varieties and BMPs to minimize herbicide resistance in weeds.
 - 709 2. Improved adaptation for new varieties, especially for drought, winter hardiness,
710 falling numbers and sprout damage.
 - 711 3. Soil conservation and fertility related to plant nutrition.
 - 712 4. Cropping Systems: Foundation and developmental research into the interaction
713 of soil health, crop rotation and fertility and alternative crops.
 - 714 5. Regional Approaches to Climate Change with emphasis on Carbon
715 Sequestration and Drought.
 - 716 6. Marketing (including the restoration of IMPACT funding – WSU's International
717 Marketing Program for Agricultural Commodities and Trade and the Wheat
718 Marketing Center).
 - 719 7. Agriculture economics
 - 720 8. Varietal testing of all public and private cultivars grown in Washington for
721 performance; adaptation and grain quality across all of Washington's major
722 wheat growing environments.

723
724 WAWG, in conjunction with the Washington Grain Commission (WGC) and Washington State
University (WSU), should work toward greater Pacific Northwest support for USDA/ARS's NW

725 Sustainable Agroecosystems Research Unit located in Pullman, WA to conduct fundamental
726 and translational research that will result in improved soil health and carbon sequestration in
727 wheat and barley cropping systems.
728
729 WAWG will work with environmental groups to find areas of mutual concern where both groups
730 can financially support sound science research that focuses on solving environmental quality
731 problems.
732
733 WAWG urges all growers to participate in coordinated farm research.
734
735 WAWG supports full and continued funding of the Ag and Food Research Initiative in the Farm
736 Bill.
737
738 WAWG supports a collaborative approach to grain research between Idaho, Oregon, and
739 Washington.
740
741 WAWG supports the research and deployment (commercialization) of a rapid, reliable, quality
742 test method to replace the existing falling number test and its adoption as the grading factor for
743 “falling number” in wheat.
744
745 WAWG supports research to determine if using a lower falling number standard would affect
746 end-use quality.
747
748 WAWG supports continuation of funding in the Washington State Soil Health initiative which
749 provides funding to Washington State University, to conduct research and pilot projects for
750 practices and policies by the Washington State Department of Agriculture and the Washington
751 State Conservation Commission that would improve soil health and improve agricultural
752 productivity.
753
754 WAWG supports the use of approved best management practices for addressing weed
755 resistance.
756
757 WAWG supports the mission and focus of WSU, Washington’s Land Grant University. Essential
758 to fulfilling that mission is fostering the research preeminence of WSU faculty that is
759 fundamental to the future success of Washington’s agriculture.
760
761 WAWG supports that WSU begins the process of filling positions that they know will be open in
762 the near term, instead of waiting until after the vacancy, especially within CAHNRS, wheat
763 research, and extension.
764
765 WAWG supports the implementation of long-term career incentives by WSU for research and
766 extension positions that provide direct support for Washington grain farms.
767
768 WAWG supports an increase in communication with WSU leadership at least annually to
769 identify priorities and work towards fulfilling them.
770
771 WAWG supports the formation of a Research Advisory Committee by the Washington Grain
772 Commission to steward the annual investment of grower dollars allocated to research. The
773 committee will ensure that funded projects align with the strategic priorities of the WGC and
774 provide meaningful, relevant, and beneficial outcomes for Washington grain growers. It will also
775 oversee the allocation of funds and research initiatives to maximize impact and return on

776 investment. Furthermore, this approach aims to enhance grower participation in research
777 funding decisions and encourage greater involvement in leadership roles.

778
779 WAWG supports changing federal regulations regarding gene editing to be consistent with the
780 number of events required for a trait to be expressed in the target species. For example, wheat,
781 a hexaploid, requires three edits.

782 **RESEARCH FUNDING**

783
784
785 WAWG supports efforts to fund WSU, Agricultural Research Center and University Extension at
786 the level of its peer institutions.

787
788 WAWG supports Plant Variety Protection (PVP) for new publicly released varieties of wheat
789 developed at WSU that need Intellectual Property Rights (IPR) protection for varieties
790 developed with public funds.

791
792 WAWG requests the Washington State Legislature to ensure that funding be maintained at
793 Washington State University in the College of Agriculture, Human and Natural Resource
794 Sciences to prevent further erosion of faculty, staff, and student positions.

795
796 WAWG supports stabilized or increased funding to the ARS facilities in Pullman, WA.

797
798 WAWG supports and encourages the American wheat and barley industry to join National
799 Coalition for Food and Agricultural Research Initiative (C-FAR), with the rest of the agricultural
800 industry, to double agricultural research funding.

801
802 WAWG supports the Washington Grain Commission, WSU, and USDA ARS to secure
803 sustainable and perpetual funding sources for club wheat research.

804
805 WAWG supports federal funding for the PNW herbicide weed resistance initiative.

806
807 WAWG encourages WSU to fully fund and replace open county extension positions.

808
809 WAWG supports continued funding at or above inflation-based levels for USDA-ARS and USDA
810 NIFA/AFRI, the primary sources for federally funded agricultural research.

811 **EDUCATION**

812
813
814 WAWG supports and encourages standardization of wheat quality testing protocols,
815 procedures, and data reporting between the four Pacific Northwest wheat quality testing
816 laboratories. This includes the USDA-ARS Western Wheat Quality Laboratory located in
817 Pullman, WA; the Wheat Marketing Center, Inc., located in Portland, OR; and the University of
818 Idaho Wheat Quality Laboratory, located in Aberdeen, ID, the Oregon State University, and
819 Wheat Quality Laboratory located in Corvallis, OR.

820
821 WAWG supports Washington State University retaining full authority to use, manage, buy and
822 sell research real estate properties that they own and oversee.

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

824
825

826 Advancing breeding technology holds great promise for the future and the US wheat industry
827 values these advancements. In preparation for the future commercialization of wheat derived
828 through these technologies, we take the following positions:

- 829
- 830 1. We support and will work to ensure the ability of wheat producers to make planting and
831 marketing choices based on economic, agronomic, and market factors.
- 832 2. We support the ability of our wheat customers to make purchases based on specific
833 traits. We commit ourselves to the principle that our customers' needs are vitally
834 important.
- 835 3. We support and will assist in the development by all segments of the industry of an
836 orderly marketing system to assure delivery of non-transgenic wheat to markets that
837 require it.
- 838 4. We urge the adoption of nationally and internationally accepted definition of generally
839 accepted breeding technology. We also urge international harmonization of scientific
840 standards and trade rules.
- 841 5. We support voluntary labeling of food products derived from specific breeding
842 technologies provided these technologies are consistent with US law and international
843 trade agreements and are truthful and not misleading. We support the establishment of a
844 reasonable threshold level for adventitious or accidental inclusion of transgenic traits in
845 bulk wheat or wheat food products in both U.S. and international markets.
- 846 6. We are confident that continued advances in breeding techniques will deliver significant
847 consumer and producer benefits, and we support continued advanced research and
848 product and market development. We invite valued and interested customers to join with
849 us in a working partnership to capitalize on emerging novel wheat breeding
850 technologies.

851
852
853 **STATE LEGISLATION COMMITTEE**

854
855 **LEGISLATION**

856
857 WAWG supports the WSU CAHNRS budget requests.

858
859 WAWG opposes restrictions on roadside spraying that will compromise fire and weed
860 management.

861
862 WAWG opposes state legislation creating collective bargaining rights for agricultural workers.

863
864 WAWG supports maintaining the integrity of dedicated state funds and accounts. Any
865 associated accrued interest should be appropriated to and used for only their original intent.

866
867 WAWG supports the policy that, if state agriculture programs, including research dollars, are
868 subject to budget cuts to achieve deficit reduction, the same percentage of cuts should apply to
869 all state government programs.

870
871 WAWG opposes state legislation and regulations pertaining to greenhouse gases that are
872 economically disruptive such as cap and trade, carbon tax, or a low carbon fuel standard.

873
874 WAWG supports the use of voluntary incentives to reduce greenhouse gas emissions rather
875 than mandates.

876

877 WAWG supports voluntary development and deployment of greenhouse gas reduction
878 technology.
879
880 WAWG supports a guest worker program that secures the borders of the US and provides a
881 legal, affordable, and stable workforce for agriculture.
882
883 WAWG encourages the buildout of broadband internet infrastructure in Washington state.
884
885 WAWG supports an employee's right to earn a competitive wage for his or her productive work.
886
887 WAWG supports legislation to provide seasonal flexibility from paying overtime for agriculture
888 workers.
889
890 WAWG supports the state taking all possible steps to avoid economic and environmental
891 leakage from carbon laws and regulations to protect Washington's existing manufacturing jobs
892 and infrastructure. WAWG supports ongoing efforts by Energy Intensive, Trade Exposed
893 businesses, such as food processors, to have a compliance pathway based on economic and
894 technological feasibility.
895
896 WAWG opposes bans to restrict the use of existing energy sources, including natural gas.
897 Ensuring power reliability should be prioritized over meeting arbitrary reduction targets.
898
899 WAWG opposes the creation of any qui tam (private right of action) enforcement powers in
900 labor and employment statutes.
901
902 WAWG supports any reforms to Washington's Paid Family and Medical Leave program must
903 preserve the program's basic premium share and benefits structure.
904
905 WAWG supports an effective and efficient food distribution system to both food banks and
906 families across the state.

907 TAXES

908
909 WAWG positions on state tax policy are:

- 910
- 911 1. Support the Open Space Act.
 - 912 2. Support tax and spending reform and elimination of the B&O tax.
 - 913 3. Oppose taxes and policies that hinder intra-family transfers of family farms.
 - 914 4. Oppose removal of lands from local tax rolls through state and federal acquisition
915 without compensation to local taxing jurisdictions. (PILT)
 - 916 5. Oppose any changes to any tax preferences that would be harmful to agriculture.
 - 917 6. Tax increases must be voted on by affected voters.
 - 918 7. Removal of the state portion of the sales tax on all farm equipment.
 - 919 8. Support the ag exemption for the overtime payroll rules.
 - 920 9. Support raising the state's estate tax exemption to match the federal estate tax
921 exemption.
 - 922 10. WAWG opposes a state income tax.
- 923

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

926
927 WAWG supports efforts to retain or improve our agriculture tax preferences which assist us in
928 competing in a domestic and international marketplace.

929
930 WAWG opposes any requirements that a farmer utilizing an agricultural tax preference must
931 provide certain employee benefits such as medical, dental or retirement benefits to qualify for
932 said tax preference.

933
934 WAWG supports repealing or making the mandatory long term care tax voluntary.
935

936 WAWG opposes any increases to payroll taxes.

937
938 WAWG opposes any tax on employers to subsidize the cost for childcare.
939

940 **REGULATORY REFORM**

941
942 WAWG supports legislative and administrative efforts to enact and implement state regulatory
943 reforms that would reduce regulatory burdens on individuals and businesses.
944

945 WAWG supports the concept that whenever governmental actions adversely affect the value or
946 use of private property, the owner must be fairly compensated at market value.
947

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

951
952 WAWG supports the public right to know who has filed an environmental quality management
953 complaint.
954

955 WAWG supports efforts to enact legislation requiring review of all agency budget programs or
956 minimum of once every ten years, in efforts to cut wasteful spending and programs not meeting
957 their intended reasons for implementations.
958

959 **STATE AGENCIES**

960 **Department of Agriculture**

961
962
963 WAWG positions on Washington State Department of Agriculture (WSDA) issues are:
964

- 965 1. Supports continued WSDA administration of the regulation of agricultural chemical use
966 versus Department of Ecology or Department of Health.
- 967 2. Supports continued WSDA administration of the grain inspection program versus federal
968 administration.
- 969 3. Supports funding for the waste pesticide collection programs.
- 970 4. Supports maintaining legislative appropriations to WSDA at levels, which allow the
971 department to perform its legislated responsibilities efficiently and effectively.
- 972 5. Supports funding for pesticide applicator training program which educates handlers and
973 applicators on how to use pesticides safely and effectively.
974

975 WAWG supports maintaining the WSDA as a standalone agency and that they take the lead on
976 any agriculture related issue.
977

978 WAWG supports the Conservation Commission to remain as an independent agency with the
979 board remaining at 10 members to reflect the current makeup of the Commission.
980

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

982
983 WAWG supports WSDA/WSU/WSCIA wheat seed quality assurance program that includes
984 continued screening to validate the integrity of our certified seed supply.

985
986 WAWG supports legislation to allow a producer to choose to have their submitted grain sample
987 inspected and graded by Washington State Department of Agriculture when delivering to
988 warehouse operator or commodity dealer for storage or sale.

989
990 WAWG supports paying reasonable pesticide registration and licensing fees to maintain a
991 robust pesticide safety program.

992
993 **Department of Ecology**

994
995 WAWG supports funding for conservation districts to assist landowners and operators to
996 implement necessary conservation practices to maintain clean water.

997
998 WAWG believes Total Maximum Daily Loads (TMDLs) should be determined by landowners,
999 operators and local conservation experts.

1000
1001 WAWG supports a MOA between the DOE and local conservation districts.

1002
1003 WAWG supports participation in the DOE Ag and Water Quality Advisory Committee.

1004
1005 WAWG supports the use of the peer reviewed mapping of streams in Washington State for fish
1006 passage.

1007
1008 WAWG supports all practices implemented to improve water quality and reduce soil erosion
1009 should be voluntary. DOE must agree to let perennial commodity crops be included in plans for
1010 soil erosion control.

1011
1012 WAWG opposes local, state, and federal programs that take agricultural land out of production
1013 without just compensation for the period that the land is out of production.

1014
1015 WAWG supports a science-based approach to determining agriculture and water quality issues.

1016
1017 WAWG supports full funding of the Voluntary Stewardship Program (VSP).

1018
1019 WAWG supports the Climate Commitment Act paying producers or offering some type of credit
1020 for the carbon sequestration practices they completed that year.

1021
1022 WAWG supports maintaining the permanent exemption for motor vehicle fuel used exclusively
1023 for agricultural purposes by farm users under the Climate Commitment Act (CCA) and making
1024 the temporary exemption for fuel used to transport agricultural products on public highways
1025 (including barging) and special fuels used exclusively for agricultural purposes permanent under
1026 the CCA.

1027
1028 WAWG supports exempting lubricants under the Climate Commitment Act.

1029
1030 WAWG supports repealing the Climate Commitment Act.

1031
1032 **Department of Employment Security**

1033
1034 WAWG supports cutting Employment Security unemployment insurance (UI) rates to reduce
1035 any excessive surpluses in the UI account and opposes increased spending on training and
1036 benefits programs.

1037
1038 WAWG opposes policies allowing striking workers to receive unemployment benefits.
1039

1040 WAWG opposes employers with less than 50 employees having to pay into the paid family
1041 medical leave program for their employees.

1042
1043 **Department of Labor and Industries**
1044

1045 WAWG positions on Department of Labor and Industries (L&I) issues are:
1046

- 1047 1. Oppose farm safety regulations that are burdensome and unnecessary.
- 1048 2. Requests direct mailings to growers of proposed and adopted changes to the
1049 Agricultural Safety Code in language easily understood by growers.
- 1050 3. Supports adoption of a more flexible industrial insurance system that would allow private
1051 insurance and group self-insurance.

1052
1053 WAWG will continue to work with other agricultural employer groups, the legislature, and L&I to
1054 ensure that both the content and the format of the Agricultural Safety Code are conducive to the
1055 maintenance of farm safety in our state.

1056
1057 WAWG will work with L&I to develop various strategies, such as the breaking out of rates,
1058 based on specific farm operations to keep the rates lower.

1059
1060 WAWG supports a lower dollar threshold for overtime exemption for salary employees for
1061 agriculture.

1062
1063 WAWG opposes policies that unreasonably restrict the hiring of minors in agriculture.

1064
1065 WAWG supports creating an ag minor work permit.
1066

1067 **Department of Natural Resources (DNR)**
1068

1069 WAWG shall regularly meet with the Commissioner of Public Lands, Department of Natural
1070 Resources (DNR) or his/her designated representatives to discuss issues of mutual concern.
1071

1072 WAWG opposes DNR and Fish and Wildlife aggressively acquiring and purchasing agricultural
1073 land to form any new land trusts for the state.

1074
1075 WAWG supports the Conservation Stewardship Program and Ag Land Easement (ALE)
1076 be eligible on State Trust Lands, managed by DNR.

1077
1078 WAWG opposes state agencies aggressively acquiring and purchasing agricultural land over a
1079 fair market value.

1080
1081 WAWG opposes state agencies acquiring new land until they are current with the (payment in
1082 lieu of taxes) PILT payments.
1083

1084 WAWG opposes DNR utilizing a highest and best use clause allowing early termination of
1085 agricultural leases without DNR paying penalties to the lessee for the remaining term of the
1086 lease.

1087
1088 **State Noxious Weed Board**
1089

1090 WAWG will work with the State Noxious Weed Board and the legislature to ensure that any
1091 amendments to the state noxious weed laws and regulations are necessary, practical, and
1092 effective.

1093
1094 **EDUCATION**
1095

1096 WAWG encourages its members and leaders to:

- 1097
- 1098 1. Communicate and cooperate with other agricultural organizations and companies
1099 (partnerships) to collectively influence agricultural policy.
 - 1100 2. Have an active and frequent presence in Olympia.
 - 1101 3. Utilize the expertise of the WAWG lobbyist to inform the membership and help direct
1102 WAWG policy in Olympia.
 - 1103 4. Individually get involved in local and state political processes and work for the election of
1104 candidates favorable to agriculture.
 - 1105 5. Inform non-agricultural legislators of the value, needs and importance of agriculture in
1106 the state.

1107
1108 WAWG will monitor attempts to further restrict the freedoms of teaching our trade to interested
1109 children and young people.

1110
1111 WAWG opposes rules and regulations adversely affecting employment of young people on
1112 farms as long as adequate safety and educational training measures are maintained
1113

1114 WAWG supports states' efforts that ask county commissioners to formally request in writing that
1115 the state and federal governments direct their employees do the following:

- 1116
- 1117 1. Consult with each respective county prior to implementing any laws, statutes, or US
1118 codes;
 - 1119 2. Follow and adhere to the afore-mentioned laws, statutes, or USCs, which would affect
1120 the economy, customs and culture of their county.

1121
1122 WAWG opposes any state laws or regulations, which are more restrictive than the 1987 federal
1123 manual for defining wetlands. Any such laws or regulations must require that all defining factors
1124 be present: soil type, water, air, plant type, animal, human, and energy (SWAPAHE).
1125

1126
1127
1128 **TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE**
1129

1130 WAWG will pursue all efforts to keep a well-maintained West Coast Trade Corridor. We will do
1131 so by helping to maintain or improve roadway, rail, and river (navigation) freight corridors.
1132

1133
1134
1135

ROAD

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1187

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.

1188 WAWG asks the legislature and WSDOT to use their influence to maintain trackage rights and
1189 access to the rail line to Wallula for future use.

1190
1191 WAWG supports increased Surface Transportation Board monitoring of railroad maintenance
1192 and improvements.

1193
1194 WAWG opposes the use of inverse rate structures by railroads and supports the
1195 nondiscriminatory geographic rates.

1196
1197 WAWG shall pursue all facets of rail issues that will provide relief to wheat growers on rail rates
1198 and service.

1199
1200 WAWG supports maintenance and expansion of intermodal services that service
1201 agricultural products.

1202
1203 WAWG opposes any further rail mergers in the United States unless the parties involved
1204 in the merger can demonstrate increased competition which would provide greater
1205 access and more competitive rail rates for shipments.

1206

1207 **RIVERS**

1208
1209 WAWG will continue membership of the Pacific Northwest Waterways Association and will hold
1210 a position on its board of trustees.

1211
1212 WAWG supports a strong barge, river, and port system with continued federal and state
1213 funding for operations, maintenance and improvement of the region's inland waterways,
1214 infrastructure, and coastal harbor channels. WAWG will work with other groups to
1215 reduce the impact of the river closure maintenance.

1216
1217 WAWG encourages Washington State legislators to actively support and pursue rivers
1218 (navigation) as an integral part of freight mobility in relieving rail and road congestion.

1219
1220 WAWG supports retaining congressional authority over navigation and the other
1221 congressionally authorized purposes of the federal Columbia-Snake River System
1222 projects.

1223
1224 WAWG opposes the removal or breaching of any dams, and excessive spill and flow
1225 augmentation within the Columbia/Snake River system.

1226
1227 WAWG supports development of biologically effective salmon recovery measures that
1228 maintain the existing federally authorized, multiple-use river system and invest in the
1229 addition of fish passage over Chief Joseph and Grand Coulee dams, to expand salmon
1230 habitat up to Canada.

1231
1232 WAWG strongly endorses the routine maintenance of the Columbia-Snake River
1233 Navigational Channel at authorized depth via dredging and/or by adjusting reservoir pool
1234 levels.

1235
1236 WAWG supports funding for short- and long-term repair needs of jetties at the mouth of
1237 the Columbia River.

1238

1239 WAWG supports Columbia River Treaty efforts which protect the viability of US
1240 navigation, hydropower, irrigation, and flood control.

1241
1242 WAWG supports a flood control approach that does not cause impacts to the safety or
1243 efficiency of navigation on the Columbia or Snake rivers.

1244
1245 WAWG supports the Office of the U.S. Trade Representative's (USTR) targeted
1246 implementation of Section 301 actions on Chinese maritime practices in a manner that
1247 preserves U.S. wheat export competitiveness and avoids unnecessary or retaliatory
1248 export costs for our overseas customers.F

1249
1250 **MEMBERSHIP AND PUBLIC RELATIONS INFORMATION COMMITTEE**

1251
1252 **EDUCATION**

1253
1254 WAWG shall actively produce public information and educational programs in order to increase
1255 the awareness of the wheat industry that drives agriculture's importance to the state and
1256 nation's economy.

1257
1258 WAWG encourages the Washington Grain Commission and Washington Wheat Foundation to
1259 continue funding public informational programs.

1260
1261 WAWG urges the WGC to continue to fund and assist the Wheat Foods Council and other
1262 organizations dedicated to addressing the public regarding wheat's nutritional value.

1263
1264 Each county association of wheat growers is encouraged to annually help fund agriculture
1265 education programs.

1266
1267 WAWG will maintain an active website, linked to other wheat industry sites for complete
1268 information and education for members and the public.

1269
1270 **VALUE ADDED SERVICE, PROGRAMS AND PARTNERSHIPS**

1271
1272 WAWG will engage various companies to offer optional value-added services to individual
1273 WAWG members and associates. Officers, Executive Committee, staff and the WAWG
1274 Membership Committee will review and make recommendations to the WAWG Board of
1275 Directors for final approval.

1276
1277 **MEMBERSHIP**

1278
1279 WAWG encourages each county to:

- 1280
1281
 1. Recruit all wheat producers as members and associate partners.
 - 1282 2. Upgrade individual membership levels.

1283
1284 Optimize levels of communication on the national, state, and local county level through
1285 newsletters, websites, Wheat Life and email.

1286
1287 State committees should maintain continuity in their plans and goals:

- 1288
1289
 1. Each county should have a member assigned to each state
1290 committee.

1291 2. Committee chairmen shall receive a job description, instruction,
1292 and budget.
1293

1294 As representatives of WAWG, state officers and executive committee members should not
1295 publicly endorse political candidates.
1296

1297 Membership is the grassroots of WAWG.
1298

1299 Membership fees can change with growers' needs. The following membership levels will be
1300 current until such time as the membership with proper procedure shall choose to change
1301 amounts (as outlined in Article X – Conventions or by Board motion to be reconfirmed at state
1302 annual meeting.)
1303

1304 Lifetime member dues remain as a permanent endowment (regardless of death) and only the
1305 interest from the permanent endowment may be used as non-restricted funds.
1306 Only those lifetime members joining WAWG prior to November 21, 2009, shall receive a
1307 complimentary convention registration.
1308

1309 Harvest Plus Lifetime Membership dues will be 20 times that of the grower membership level.
1310 As of 11/15/2023 the amount is \$3,000 and payments over a three-year billing period are
1311 allowed and is non-refundable.
1312

1313 The dues for regular membership (voting) shall be:

- 1314 • Grower/Landlord- \$150 per person per annum,
- 1315 • Family - \$250 for up to 2 people per annum.
- 1316 • Partnership - \$600 for up to 5 people per annum.
- 1317 • Convention – \$720 for 2 individuals, membership, and convention registration
1318

1319 The dues for student nonvoting membership

- 1320 • Education - \$90.00 per annum, Wheat Life magazine and Green Sheet
1321

1322 The designated dues for Associate Members (non-voting) shall be:

- 1323 • Level 5 Industry Supporter - \$250 per annum membership
- 1324 • Level 4 VIP - \$500 per annum, Membership \$250, Wheat Life credit \$250
- 1325 • Level 3 CEO - \$1,800 per annum, Membership \$250, Wheat Life credit \$1,050,
1326 AMMO \$500
- 1327 • Level 2 Convention Sponsor - \$6,000 per annum, Membership \$250, Wheat Life credit
1328 \$2,750, AMMO \$1,000, Convention Silver \$2,000
- 1329 • Level 1 Platinum Sponsor - \$10,000 per annum, Membership \$250, Wheat Life credit
1330 \$2,750, AMMO \$1,000, Convention Platinum \$6,000
1331

1332 The state association will provide Wheat Life magazine and either Green Sheet Alert via email
1333 or Green Sheet newsletter at all levels of membership.
1334

1335 The state association shall retain eighty-five (85%) percent of membership payments and fifteen
1336 (15%) percent shall be returned to the counties for their efforts towards membership. Lifetime
1337 member fees are excluded from the 85/15% amounts to be retained by the state and counties
1338 respectfully. County paybacks will be paid approximately twice a year.
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1340 Members are encouraged to donate to Legislative Action Fund, Washington Wheat PAC and
1341 Barley Boosters for state and national legislative lobbying, and to the Environment Stewardship
1342 Fund for fighting environmental issues that arise and directly affect growers.

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2026 WAWG Resolutions passed at the 2025 Washington Association of Wheat Growers Annual Meeting November 18th, 2025.