

BEFORE THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE LEWIS COUNTY FARM BUREAU. LEWIS COUNTY, WASHINGTON.

RESOLUTION NO. 10-1

A RESOLUTION OF THE LEWIS COUNTY FARM BUREAU. SUPPORTING WATER RETENTION AS A PRIMARY FUNCTION WITH LEVEES SECONDARY IN THE CHEHALIS RIVER BASIN.

WHEREAS, the Lewis Country Farm bureau at its April 7, 2010 meeting discussed options for flood control in the Chehalis River basin: and

WHEREAS, the Lewis County Farm Bureau represents the interest of our members, the agricultural community, and valuable county resources in general, including those resources located in the Chehalis Basin within Lewis County: and

WHEREAS, recent flood events have had significant detrimental impacts on our county farms, causing **loss of life** to livestock, damage to farm infrastructure, financial loss, and impacts to soil and other environmental resources: and

WHEREAS, the 2007 and 2009 floods demonstrated that a basin wide solution needs to be pursued to resolve flooding in the entire watershed and not just in the Centralia-Chehalis corridor; the history of floods have caused extensive damage to farms in the Upper Chehalis, Pe Ell, Boistfort Valley, Adna, Bucoda, Grand Mound, Independence Valley, and on into Grays Harbor County to the mouth of the Chehalis River, and;

WHEREAS, water retention, and not levees alone, shows the greatest promise of contributing to a basin wide solution.

THEREFORE; the Lewis County Farm Bureau resolves to encourage and support policy decisions that:

Recognize that water retention components are a reasonable and effective means of managing river dynamics during flood events, and should be emphasized within a multifaceted and holistic flood control solution for the Chehalis Basin and its tributaries;

Acknowledge that water retention components within a flood management approach may require mitigation measure to offset impacts on critical areas eco-systems, cultural resources, and property rights;

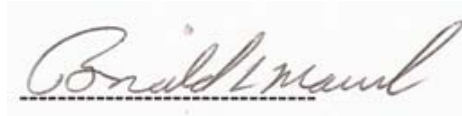
Lewis County Farm Bureau supports retention of flood waters for release during summer months. The Chehalis River Basin has been closed to new agricultural in-stream water right permits, with interruptible permits using the porter Bridge flow gauge to decide when our farms can irrigate.

Lewis County Farm Bureau supports completion of the Governor's proposed Coordinated Study to show how water retention and levees may complement each other;

Lewis County Farm Bureau supports the reauthorization of a significantly different US Army Corps of Engineers Twin Cities Project, with retention as the primary element that includes levees as secondary.

Lewis County Farm Bureau recognizes that flood control improvements, measures, and flood management are best addressed by those most affected. We agree that emphasis should be given to locally generated planning goals including providing a protection of agricultural resources and interests within the Chehalis basin

Adopted by the Lewis Country Farm Bureau Board Members, this 7th day, April, 2010.

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Ronald L. Mael", written in black ink on a light-colored background. The signature is positioned above a horizontal dashed line.

Ronald L Mael, President,
Lewis County Farm Bureau