



Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee

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PRESS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Palouse Water Use Declines in 2008

Moscow, Idaho

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Pumping figures for 2008 released by the Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee (PBAC)

indicate that water use on the Palouse declined 4% from the previous year.

PBAC today released annual pumping figures for last year, showing total pumping by the major pumping entities declined over 4% from 2007. The 2008 aggregated total pumping for member entities (Pullman, Moscow, Colfax, Palouse, WSU and UI) was 2.66 billion gallons. This figure represents a 4.1 % reduction from 2007, and a 13.9% reduction from 1992, the year the pumpers first enacted a regional Ground Water Management Plan.

Committee Chair Mark Workman attributes the reduction to “a combination of municipal efficiencies, water rate structures that encourage conservation, cooler and wetter summer weather and a continued awareness by the public of our water resources”. “We are

pleased with the pumping numbers for 2008 and are continuing to enhance our knowledge and management of our ground water basin,” Workman noted.

The Palouse Basin Aquifer Committee is a voluntary, cooperative, multijurisdictional group with representatives from the cities, counties, and universities within the Palouse ground water basin. Detailed 2008 pumping figures can be found at the PBAC web site (http://www.uidaho.edu/pbac/Pumping_and_Water_Levels/2008_PBAC_Pumping_and_Weather.pdf) .

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