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FERRY COUNTY
RESOLUTION NO. 2003-14

MAY 05 2003

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PEND ORELLE
COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

INTENT TO FORM
"UPPER COLUMBIA WORKING GROUP"
FOR RESPONSIBLE STEWARDSHIP

WHEREAS, the Board finds the United States Environmental Protection Agency has recently been called upon and has completed a preliminary investigation regarding contamination of portions of Lake Roosevelt which could lead to a process of designation of the area as a "Superfund" site; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that Stevens, Ferry, Lincoln, Okanogan, Pend Orielle and Grant counties border Lake Roosevelt and the upper Columbia River and that these and other surrounding counties share concerns about the environmental quality of the lake, the lake bed and surrounding shorelines and tributary and downstream waters; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that the counties have a shared objective to protect human health and address environmental issues to make sure the water is safe to drink, the fish are safe to eat, and the beaches are safe for recreational activities; and

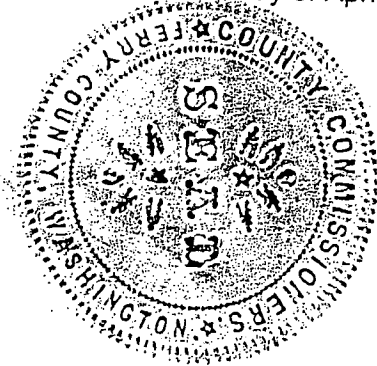
WHEREAS, the Board finds the counties need independent, scientifically sound studies to understand and address the issues, completed in a timely manner, which include the involvement of all affected parties in the region, including the Native American Tribal Nations and federal and state agencies, conducted in a cooperative and efficient manner; and

WHEREAS, the Board finds that a federal superfund listing brings an unnecessary negative stigma to the region which will damage economic development prospects, recreation and tourism for decades to come;

NOW, THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Board of Ferry County Commissioners supports and calls for the formation of a Lake Roosevelt counties coalition to be formed by all counties with concerns about Lake Roosevelt, and other affected entities, both public and private, the purpose of which will be to obtain adequate funding and to oversee studies which will provide good, credible science that will answer the key questions for our constituents: "Can I drink the water? Can I eat the fish? Can I play on the beaches?". The studies commissioned by the coalition are to be independent, peer reviewed, and timely completed.

5.51

APPROVED this 28th day of April 2003



BOARD OF FERRY COUNTY COMMISSIONERS

Mike L. Blankenship
MIKE L. BLANKENSHIP, Chairman

Dennis A. Snook
DENNIS A. SNOOK, Vice Chairman

Ronald L. Bacon
RONALD L. BACON, Member

ATTEST:

Shannon Rollins
for Joy Osterberg
Clerk of the Board