



Media Advisory

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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Contact: Suzanne Hartman
[\(509\) 881-7300](tel:5098817300)

ROCK ISLAND RESERVOIR IRRIGATORS AND WELL USERS MEETING SET *State agencies, agriculture representatives and Chelan PUD to hear concerns*

WENATCHEE – On **Thursday, March 13 at the Confluence Technology Center, 285 Technology Center Way, from 5:30 – 7 p.m.** there will be an information meeting for those who draw water from the Rock Island reservoir.

Under the leadership of the Washington State Horticulture Association, representatives of Gov. Inslee's Office – Office of Regulatory Innovation & Assistance – the Depts. of Ecology, Agriculture, Fish & Wildlife, along with Chelan County PUD, are coming together to answer questions and gather information from irrigators, well owners and orchardists about how the lower water levels on the Rock Island reservoir are affecting them.

There will be a brief presentation and overview about the current status of the Rock Island reservoir. The balance of the meeting is to hear from the irrigators and well owners. Those attending the meeting, and whose irrigation systems are directly affected, are asked to bring with them the following information:

- Whether intake points have been looked at within the last few days since the reservoir level has been raised to 609 feet;
- Whether intakes are under water sufficiently to avoid cavitation or whirlpooling that might cause a loss of prime or pump failure;
- The total number of acres irrigated from the Rock Island reservoir;
- The elevation of irrigated orchard(s);
- Whether they have had impacts to date;
- Whether they use irrigation water for frost protection;
- Whether they have another source of water for crop protection applications;
- When they expect to begin irrigating this spring.

For more information about the meeting, please contact Marcie Steinmetz, (marcie.steinmetz@chelanpud.org) or [\(509\) 661-4186](tel:5096614186).

The Department of Ecology also has information available at:
<http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/wr/dams/wanapum/html>

Check chelanpud.org under "Wanapum Drawdown Response" on the home page for updates on Chelan PUD's response to the drawdown of the reservoir behind Grant PUD's Wanapum Dam. Find us on [Facebook.com/ChelanPUD](https://www.facebook.com/ChelanPUD) and follow us on [Twitter @ChelanPUD](https://twitter.com/ChelanPUD).