**RESOLUTION**

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| **SHORT TITLE: Agricultural, forest and rangeland mitigation** |

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| **SPONSOR CD: North Yakima Conservation District** |

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| **AREA:** 🞏NW 🞏SW 🞏NC **X**SC 🞏NE 🞏SE |

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| **RESOLUTION TYPE:**  🞏 **Policy**  X **Position Statement**  🞏 **Recognition**  🞏 **Study** |

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| **RESOLUTION ACTION AGENCY** (check any option that applies):  🞏 **WACD**  **X WSCC**  **X OTHER STATE AGENCY Washington State Department of Agriculture**  **🞏 NRCS**  **🞏 NACD**  **🞏 NON-STATE/FEDERAL PARTNER \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_** |

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| **BACKGROUND/PROBLEM STATEMENT: The loss of agricultural lands (agricultural, forest and rangeland) to non-agricultural uses in Washington State is occurring at an alarming rate. These conversions not only threaten the agricultural industries of the State but also negatively impact multiple ecosystems for habitat and functions. The common protocol for impacts to ecosystem habitat and function is the requirement for “mitigation” for the value of the loss. However, no consideration for the loss of agricultural value nor the associated ecosystem functions agricultural lands provide is considered or required.** |

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| **PROPOSED RESOLUTION LANGUAGE: WACD will develop a position statement for required mitigation for loss of agricultural land types and that WACD, WSCC, WDSA, Conservation Districts and appropriate entities and partners work to develop guidance. Guidance will then be championed by WACD and our partners to become law through legislative action(s).** |

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| **TYPE OF TEXT OF RESOLUTION** (check all boxes that apply):  🞏 Technical (changes address grammar, punctuation, sentence flow and makes **NO** substantive change(s) to the existing policy.  🞏 Substantive change to existing policy. If in doubt, check the box.  X New policy. |

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| **ARE WACD RESOURCES (FUNDING, STAFF CAPACITY, ETC.) REQUIRED TO IMPLEMENT THE POLICY?**  🞏 **NO**  X **YES** (briefly explain): Expected resources will be used in the early development and facilitation of the “working partners” to develop the guidance. Future resources will be needed to move the “guidance document(s)” through the legislative process to law. After that no additional resources are necessary. |