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Russell & Rose Lagerberg
13715 Wallingford N
Seattle, WA 98133
May 18, 1999

Thomas W. Ferns
U.S. Department of Energy
Richland Operations Office
Richland, Washington

RECEIVED

MAY 20 1999

DOE-RL / DIS

Dear Mr. Ferns:

What a wonderful opportunity you have to save one of the last places in eastern Washington supporting large areas of native shrub-steppe vegetation and Related wildlife.

We support the **Preferred Alternative**, but would suggest some **modifications**:

- A. The Arid Lands Ecology Reserve, the McGee Ranch, DOE's entire Wahluke Slope, the Hanford Reach, and the Columbia River Islands should be managed as a **permanent National Wildlife Refuge**. To expedite a final decision on management of uncontaminated lands we would suggest that DOE issue separate decisions for the above areas.
- B. To ensure long-term protection for key native species and systems located across the Site (including central Hanford), there should be **no agriculture, commercial mining, or livestock grazing permitted**.

Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

Russell + Rose Lagerberg