



Western Regional Office
3074 Gold Canal Drive
Rancho Cordova, CA 95670-6116
(916) 852-2000 fax (916) 852-2200
www.ducks.org

June 6, 2014.

Recreation and Conservation Office
1111 Washington Street S.E.
P.O. Box 40917
Olympia, Washington 98504-0917

FROM: Mark Biddlecomb, Director of Operations, Western Region, Ducks Unlimited, Inc.

RE: WDFW proposed Reardan's Audubon Lake Acquisition 2014, Phase 2

TO: RCO Office,

Ducks Unlimited (DU) supports the proposed acquisition of the Reardan's Audubon Lake 2014 Phase 2 by the Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife (WDFW). Ducks Unlimited is the world's leader in wetlands and waterfowl conservation. This work fits our vision to protect and restore critical wetland habitats in order to fill the skies with waterfowl today, tomorrow, and forever.

This property is in the Columbia Basin's Channeled Scablands, which is a priority conservation area for Ducks Unlimited because of its importance for Pacific Flyway waterfowl during migration. The Columbia Basin, of which the Channeled Scablands is the eastern portion, is a North American Waterfowl Management Plan (NAWMP) identified area of continental significance for non-breeding waterfowl, and one of only 4 high priority ecoregions in the 11-state Intermountain West Joint Venture.

Washington Department of Fish and Wildlife is qualified to acquire and manage this property. They have already successfully restored and are managing the Phase 1 site. We have first-hand knowledge of their staff's dedication and expertise, as WDFW and DU have successfully partnered on wetland and other critical habitat protection and restoration projects for over 13 years in eastern Washington, benefitting over 15,915 acres. We strongly encourage you to fund this important project.

Sincerely,

Mark Biddlecomb,
Director