EXCERPTS FROM **DRAFT** BENTON COUNTY RURAL WATER SUPPLY MITIGATION PROGRAM DESCRIPTION (January 28, 2019)

XX.YY.020 Applicability.

Effective Date: From XX/XX/2019 (add BOCC Adoption date here) onward, the provisions of this chapter shall apply to all new Benton County uses for building permits and land division applications that require potable water from a permit-exempt well located in the Yakima River drainage (WRIA 37) area where water drains to the Yakima River (Yakima River Mitigation Area). That geographic area is depicted on the attached Exhibit A and is displayed on an inventory map available at the Planning Department. Mitigation shall be for Total Water Supply Available (TWSA) for the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation Yakima Project, as measured at the Parker and Prosser gauges on the Yakima River. Water rights included as part of the Yakima Project TWSA are used to serve seasonal irrigation needs included in the Yakima Project, with a May 10, 1905 priority date.

XX.YY.025 Reserved Mitigation

For every building permit issued after February 13, 2018, and prior to the effective date as provided in BCC XX.YY.020, that requires potable water from a permit-exempt well within the Mitigation Area, Benton County will reserve 200 gallons per day per parcel (annual daily average) if the permit is or was for development on a parcel within an irrigation district or 300 gallons per day per parcel (annual daily average) if the permit is or was for development on a parcel not within an irrigation district from a water right placed in trust by the County.

XX.YY.030 Mitigation Measures

All new uses of ground water from a permit-exempt well within the Mitigation Area shall purchase a mitigation certificate from the County or other legal documentation acceptable to Benton County from another water bank program within the Yakima Basin with water rights upstream of Benton allowing the applicant to demonstrate water budget neutrality to the Yakima River. No new use to which this chapter is applicable shall be approved without one of these.

XX.YY.050 Mitigation Packages

Applicants seeking mitigation through the Benton County Yakima Basin Water Bank will be required to purchase one of the following two mitigation packages:

- a. Package A, which is for applicants with access to outdoor irrigation (as determined by a signed affidavit) and consists of an annual average of 200 gallons per day of indoor domestic use only. The daily maximum withdrawal allowed on any given day for Package A is 675 gallons per day, as long as the annual average is not exceeded.
- b. Package B, which is for applicants without access to outdoor irrigation (as determined by a signed affidavit) and consists of an annual average of 200 gallons per day of indoor domestic use only and up to an annual average of 100 gallons per day for outdoor irrigation of up to 1500 square feet or other area that could be larger through use of low-water vegetation and/or xeriscape landscaping, but would not exceed the annual average of 100 gallons per day. The daily maximum withdrawal allowed on any given day for Package B is 900 gallons per day, as long as the annual average is not exceeded.

