The U.S. Bureau of Reclamation’s Columbia Basin Project includes the Grand Coulee Dam and a vast irrigation system serving the region. Roughly 671,000 acres receive surface water. Additional acres use groundwater.

Beyond reliable irrigation, the project provides and manages water for:
- Municipalities
- Industries
- Flood and streamflow
- Endangered species
- Recreation
- Power production

Groundwater is threatened by a declining aquifer, a problem for agriculture and rural communities. Efforts to replace groundwater are underway.

THE VALUE OF AGRICULTURE

Over $3 billion in production value.

Nearly 3 million acres in production.

3,500+ farms

Grant County: #2 in WA #10 nationally* by value of ag production.

Lincoln County: #2 in WA Top 10 U.S. county for wheat production.

Farms employ more than 13,000

That is 1 in 5 jobs.

TOP 5 COMMODITIES in the Columbia Basin†

1. Apples: $839.1 million
2. Potatoes: $664.6 million
3. Wheat: $313.3 million
4. Hay: $225.9 million
5. Onions: $163.6 million

Apples are the #1 crop in Washington State. #1 state in the nation.

Nearly 2/3 of Washington’s potatoes are grown in this region and 20% of all US potatoes.

Wheat is the #1 crop by acres—over 1/3 of Washington’s wheat is grown in this region.