



Growing Grant County

June 2011



EDC Host to Moses Lake “Business After Hours”

Table of Contents

EDC “Business After Hours”	1
New Mattawa Intersection	1
Columbia Basin’s Water	2
2011 Duel in the Desert	3
ASPI Breaks Ground	4
Upcoming Events	4



The Grant County EDC will be hosting the Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce “Business After Hours” on July 12th. It will be held at the Big Bend Community College ATEC building from 5 pm to 7 pm.

Early bird registration is \$7.50 per person and late registration, after July 8th, is \$15 per person. Contact the Moses Lake Chamber of Commerce at 765-7888 to register.

Come learn about what we do to help out the local businesses of Moses Lake. We will be featuring Genie Industries, REC Silicon, the PET Program, and our new Location One site selection information webpage.

Economic Development Projects

New Requests for Information: 18

Active Projects: 22

Projects under Construction: 7

Active Projects by Type

Agricultural Related: 3

Manufacturing: 1

Retail: 2

Data Center: 7

Impacts of Active Projects

Estimated New Jobs: Over 1,100

Estimated Annual Wages: Over \$50 million

Total Project Values: Over \$2 billion

Mattawa Intersection Improvement

Washington DOT is currently looking into options of how to improve SR 243 and Highway 24 S.W in Mattawa. They are considering five options which include an overpass or underpass with options of acceleration/ deceleration lanes or rerouting the turning traffic. Construction could start as soon as 2012.



The DOT has decided to undertake the intersection improvement as there have been 21 collisions, two of which had fatalities. The highway has a speed limit of 60 mph with two traffic lanes and a left turn lane.



Most Columbia Basin Wells Will Begin Going Dry in 10-20 Years

Within 10 to 20 years approximately 93% of the major agricultural and municipal wells in the Columbia Basin will begin drying up. This was the central focus of a presentation given by Paul Stoker, Executive Director of the Columbia Basin Ground Water Management Area (GWMA), at the Grant County EDC luncheon.

Stoker was joined by Patrick Royer, a data analyst for GWMA and Dr. Kevin Lindsey with GSI Water Solutions, Inc. For over a decade, Stoker, Royer, Lindsey and other scientists have been mapping and studying the aquifers in the Columbia Basin.

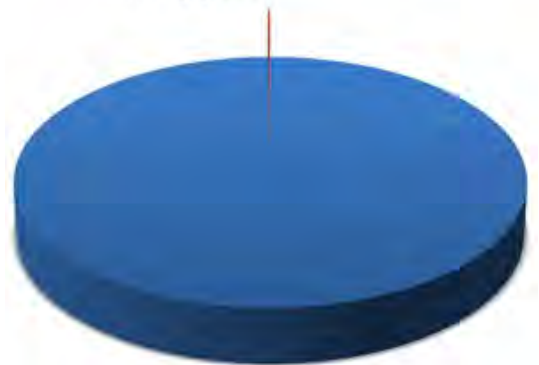
The conclusion of their findings is that approximately 160,000 acre feet are withdrawn from the aquifers every year with minimal amounts of water going back into the aquifers. This means that the wells in the region are not sustainable and within 10 to 20 years the water will be gone.

So how much water is 160,000 acre feet, and what resources are available to replace it when the wells run dry?

If we were to divert the Columbia River below the Bonneville dam and pour the entire flow of the river into the Columbia Basin for 13 hours straight that would equal the amount of water that is currently being pumped through wells every year.

The thought of having the entire Columbia River dumped onto our county for 13 hours straight conjures up images of extraordinary amounts of water. However, this is equal to less than one-fifteenth of one percent of the annual discharge of the Columbia River (see pie chart to the right for a visual representation of 1/15 of 1%). In other words, enough water is flowing through the Columbia River that if policies were put into place that would allow for removal of water during seasons of high water, enough water could potentially be stored to replace the 160,000 acre feet that is currently being pumped from wells.

■ Amount of water pumped by wells in the Columbia Basin every year
■ Amount of water that flows through the Columbia River every year



According to Stoker, Banks Lake has an additional 500,000 acre feet of potential storage. If all the wells in the Columbia Basin were turned off, the additional storage capacity in Banks Lake could last the region for approximately three years before needing to be refilled.

Stoker emphasized that action needs to be taken now in order to begin the process of moving the region off of unsustainable well water and onto the only available recharge source, the Columbia River. If we wait until wells start running dry it will be too late to access other sources of water.

Stoker recommended that citizens begin conversations with their elected officials to let them know that this issue is important and that solutions need to be addressed sooner rather than later.





2011 Duel in the Desert! 2 Day Golf Tournament August 5th at Moses Lake Golf Club & August 6th at Moses Point

Call 509-764-6579



to participate as a sponsor

Hole Sponsors

Columbia Basin Herald
Maiers Development
REC Silicon

Golf Cart Sponsor

Agri/Com Appraisals

Driving Range Sponsor

Basic American Foods

KP Sponsors

Northwest Farm Credit Service
BBSI

Drink Cart Sponsors

Architects West, Inc

Meal Sponsors

Columbia Glass

**Your Sponsorship of the Duel in the Desert
helps fund the mission of the Grant County EDC**



Sponsorship Levels (To Participate in the Tournament you must be a sponsor)

Title Sponsor \$5,000: 8 golfers, 16 dinner tickets, tent and signage on the golf course and newspaper advertisement

Hole Sponsor \$2,000: 4 golfers, 8 dinner tickets, signage on the golf course and newspaper advertisement

Hole Activity Sponsor \$1,800: 4 golfers, 8 dinner tickets, table (to be staffed by your business), signage on the golf course and newspaper advertisement

Longest Drive Sponsor \$1,000: 2 golfers, 4 dinner tickets, signage on the golf course and newspaper advertisement

KP Sponsor \$500: 1 golfer, 2 dinner tickets, signage on the golf course and newspaper advertisement

Drink Cart Sponsor \$500: 1 golfer, 2 dinner tickets, signage on the drink carts and newspaper advertisement

Hole-In-One Sponsor: 1 golfer, 2 dinner tickets, signage on the golf course and newspaper advertisement (Sponsor provides hole-in-one prize and own insurance)

Meal Sponsor \$300: Signage at the dinner and breakfast





ASPI Breaks Ground on Commerce Park Three

ASPI Group Inc. broke ground on its newest project, a 50,000 square foot tilt concrete building, to be known as the ASPI Commerce Building Three. The building will be located at Patton Boulevard and Doolittle Drive.

Russell Construction is continuing to act as the general contractor for ASPI, and has recently completed another project in Moses Lake, the Gateway Commerce Center. “Russell Construction maintains a local presence in the Grant County/Moses Lake area and strives to use local sub-contractors when we can to stimulate the local economy and job market,” said Michael O’Holloran, the local Superintendent of Russell Construction.

ASPI is looking forward to continued work in Moses Lake and with Russell Construction. They plan to construct an additional building, ASPI Commerce Park Four, a 100,000 square foot building, as soon as Spring 2012. “Even though the national economic conditions are challenging, ASPI is committed to continuing it’s 20-year presence in Grant County,” commented Andy CF Chen, President of ASPI Group.



Upcoming Events

July 12th

Business After Hours
5:00-7:00 pm
BBCC ATEC

July 20th

Board & Member Meeting
7:00-8:00 am
BBCC ATEC

July 21st

SGL Carbon Fiber Luncheon
11:30-1:00
BBCC ATEC

August 5th & 6th

Duel in the Desert
Moses Lake Golf Club
Moses Point