



Water-use deal hammered out in WA

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TACOMA, WA — A controversial deal regarding Lake Tapps and how it will be used is nearly complete, and interests of all involved parties seem to have been met in a memorandum of agreement (MOA), *The News Tribune* reported on April 14.

The MOA, signed April 10 by the Lake Tapps Community Council and officials for the Cascade Regional Water Alliance, provides for the needs of fish in the White River, drinking water and lake levels.

The alliance, a consortium of East and South King County cities and water districts, is turning Lake Tapps into a water source for Seattle-area suburbs. Interested parties also include lakeside communities, which want the lake to continue to be able to be used as a recreational body of water, and local tribes that wanted flows maintained in the White River to protect fish, as *WaterTech Online*® has reported.

The Lake Tapps Community Council and the alliance have 30 days to formalize the new agreement, which will be part of the 2004 Lake Tapps reservoir management plan, the article said.

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