



December 12, 2025

Drs. Marilyn Warburton & Per McCord
WRPIS Coordinator & Project Director
Washington State University
Pullman, WA 99164, USA

Dear Drs. Warburton & McCord,

On behalf of USA Pulses, I am pleased to express strong support for your proposal entitled "Promoting long-term sustainable management and use of vital agricultural plant germplasm". We have long been supporters of the germplasm at the Western Regional Plant Introduction Station (WRPIS) and of the unit's mission to conserve and promote the use of vitally important plant genetic resources (PGR) for agricultural research. The primary collections in the WRPIS genebank include cool-season food legumes (e.g., peas, lentils, chickpeas, and faba beans), all of which are represented by USA Pulses.

USA Pulses is a national organization representing the entire pulse industry, including dry peas, lentils, chickpeas, and dry beans. We encompass producers from Washington, Idaho, Montana, North Dakota, South Dakota, Nebraska, and Minnesota, as well as processors, exporters, warehousemen, and food manufacturers across the U.S.

We understand the value of the National Plant Germplasm System and its essential genebank locations. The germplasm collections of the WRPIS in Pullman, WA are requested by breeders and geneticists to create new germplasm for research and breeding, and develop superior varieties that support our industry and stakeholders. Increased demand for plant-based proteins and food innovation with pulse crops has been a significant driver of the industry's market expansion in recent years. The new and improved cultivars that many of our industry members depend on often rely on novel traits sourced from plant genetic resource collections from the WRPIS. Your plans to maintain the germplasm of pulses, other legumes, and all crops under your care are essential for all stakeholders. Additionally, we support your research on evaluating pulse and legume germplasm for key traits and on developing approaches to accelerate improved techniques using molecular methods.

USA Pulses strongly supports the mission of the WRPIS, as outlined above, and looks forward to providing input and, as needed, participating in developing strategies to support your continued service mission. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us anytime.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Tim D. McGreevy".

Tim D. McGreevy, CEO
USA Pulses

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