FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Acreage survey to gather important data for wine grape & tree fruit growers in Washington State
Survey funded by Washington State Department of Agriculture grant

SEATTLE (January 23, 2017) – The Washington State Wine Commission partnered with the Washington Tree Fruit Association, the Washington State Fruit Commission, the Washington State Apple Commission, Pear Bureau Northwest and the Washington Association of Wine Grape Growers to secure funding for a grant that will allow for an important acreage survey to be conducted by the USDA’s National Agricultural Statistics Service (USDA NASS).

The survey will take an inventory of the state’s wine grapes by crop, variety, age, and production. It’s been over 10 years since a similar survey was conducted, and because the Washington State wine industry is growing at a rapid pace – there’s an imminent need for updated data.

Detailed acreage information is critical to both grape and tree fruit growers for decision-making that will maximize production and labor efficiencies. The information is also valuable for agribusiness service-providers including lenders, nurseries, input suppliers, warehouses and processors as well for the management of labor supplies and transportation.

“Collection of industry data is necessary for risk management, future planning and determination of economic impact,” said Steve Warner, President of the Washington State Wine Commission. “Along with our partners, Washington State Wine fully supports this acreage survey conducted by NASS, and we ask for strong participation from our wine grape growers.”

NASS will mail out the survey to growers immediately, and ask for return by February 7, 2017.

About Washington State Wine:
Washington State Wine represents every licensed winery and wine grape grower in Washington State. Guided by an appointed board, WSW provides a marketing platform to raise positive awareness of the Washington State wine industry and generate greater demand for its wines. Funded almost entirely by the industry through assessments based on grape and wine sales, WSW is a state government agency, established by the legislature in 1987. To learn more, visit www.washingtonwine.org.

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