

Advisory Group on Water Trust, Banking, and Transfers

Meeting 4: Private Investment and Marketing of Water Rights

Part B: Water Banking

9:30 am to 12:30 pm

June 10, 2020

Online via WebEx

WebEx Access:

Please register for the meeting [here](#).¹ Once registered, WebEx will send you instructions to join the meeting.

Agenda:

Time	Topic	Speaker/Lead
9:30 – 9:45	Welcome, review agenda & objectives, introductions, summary of last meeting	Carrie Sessions
9:45 – 10:40	Background presentations: Water Banking	Amanda Cronin (AMP Insights); Paul Jewell (WA Assoc. of Counties)
10:40 – 11:20	Discussion question 1	Dave Christensen
11:20 – 11:30	Break	
11:30 – 12:25	Discussion questions 2	Carrie Sessions
12:25 – 12:30	Wrap up, look ahead to next meeting, and open post-meeting survey	Carrie Sessions

Materials:

- [The State Water Trust and Water Banking: History and Function](#)²
- [Water Banking and Water Marketing in Select Western States](#)³

Meeting Objectives:

1. Build upon the previous meetings by identifying specific concerns (or lack thereof) about private investment and marketing of water rights enabled through water banking.
2. Increase understanding of the functions and use of water banking in Washington.
3. Gather feedback on whether changes to the water banking statutes, either clarifying or substantive, are needed to address concerns identified in the discussion.

¹ www.webex.com Event number: 133 166 4207 Event password: ncKCbHc493

² <https://fortress.wa.gov/ecy/publications/documents/2011063.pdf>

³ <https://apps.wa.gov/ecology/docs/WaterRights/wrwebpdf/WaterBankingandWaterMarketinginSelectWesternStates.pdf>

Discussion Questions:

1. Are you concerned that water banks are being used in ways to benefit private interests at a detriment to public interests? If so, what specifically concerns you? For example, is it the potential for:
 - a. Private entities to control and manage water supplies?
 - b. Monopolization such that one bank can gain disproportionate market power in a basin?
 - c. Creation of banks that do not have a demonstrated need in the basin or potential customers?
2. Should the state be more active in regulating the creation and ongoing operation of new water banks to ensure consumer protection?
 - a. Does your answer differ if the banker is public, private, or nonprofit? Does your answer differ if the bank serves domestic uses, irrigation, or environmental services?
 - b. For the creation of new banks – Should prospective bankers have to meet specific criteria before a bank may be created? If so, what criteria would you think appropriate? Should Ecology have the authority to deny the creation of a bank if the prospective banker fails to adequately meet those criteria?
 - c. For the ongoing operation of banks – What elements of operation should be monitored and potentially regulated?

ADA Accessibility

To request an ADA accommodation, contact Ecology by phone at 360-522-0885 or email at Barbara.Brooks@ecy.wa.gov. For Washington Relay Service or TTY call 711 or 877-833-6341. Visit [Ecology's website](#) for more information.
