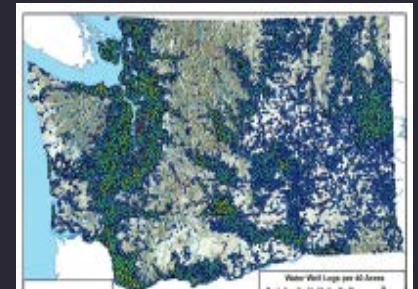
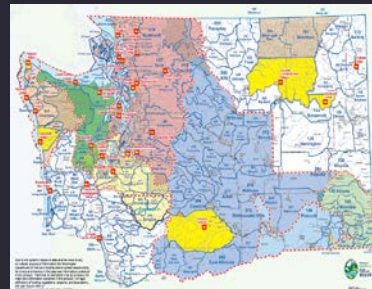
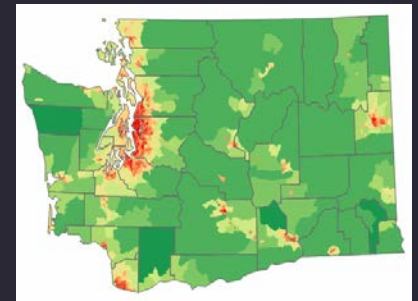
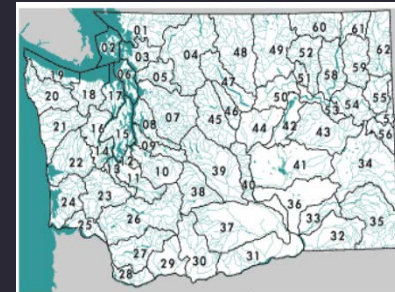
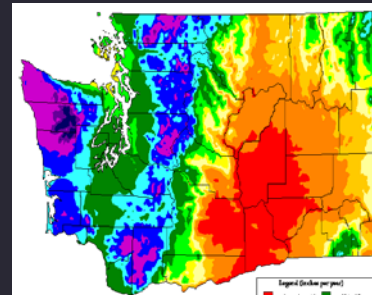
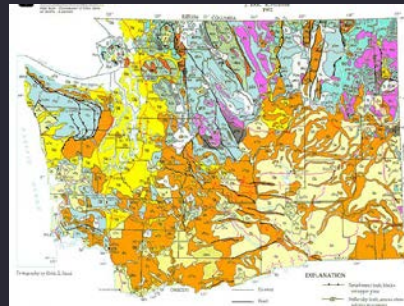


Strategic Planning: Water Banking in WA

WRAC Presentation
October 14, 2019

Carrie Sessions and
Dave Christensen



Overview

1. Our goals and objectives
2. Current status of banking in Washington
3. Lessons learned from other states
4. Group discussion

Goals and Objectives

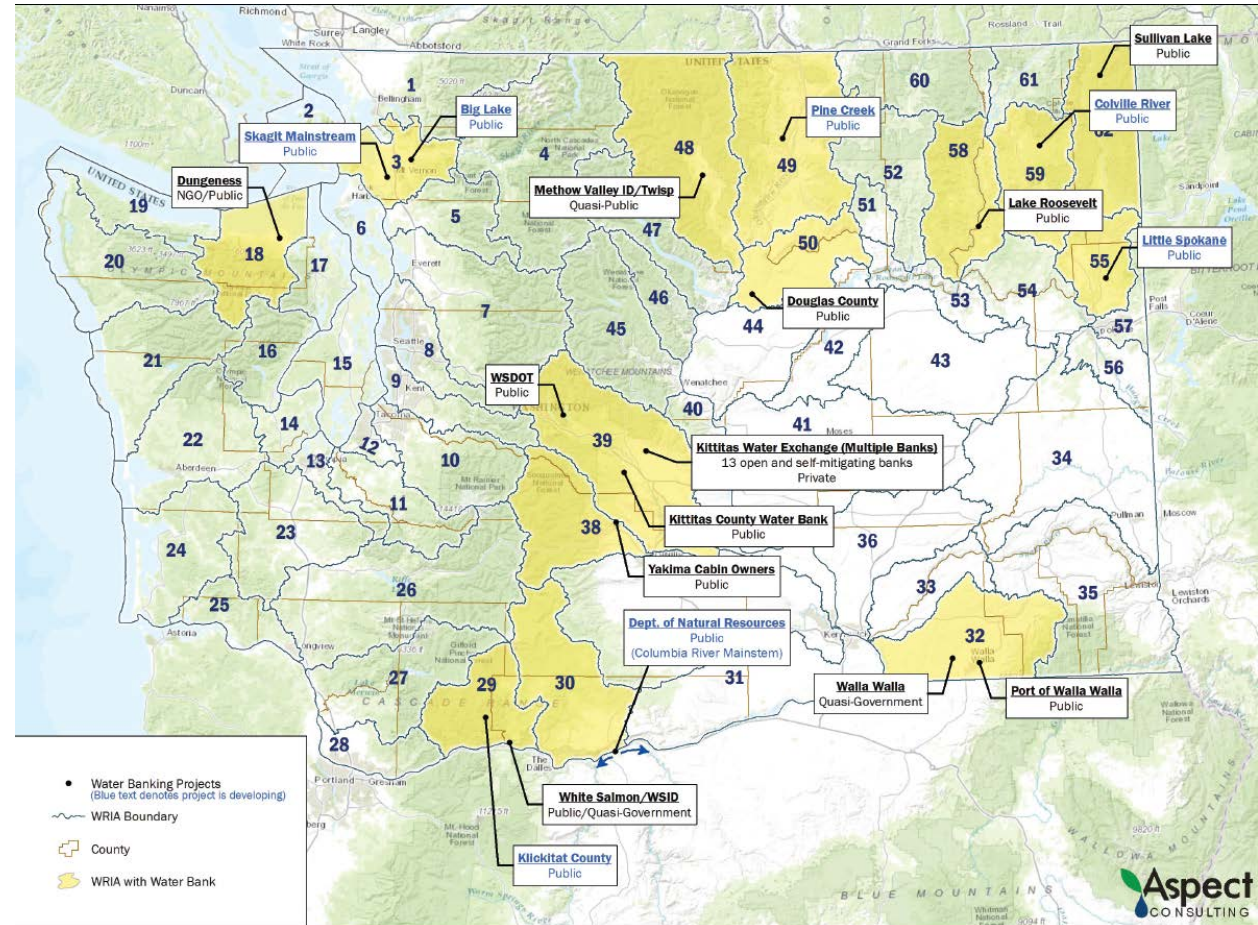
- Create a vision for water banking in Washington.
- Evaluate what changes would help effectuate that vision.



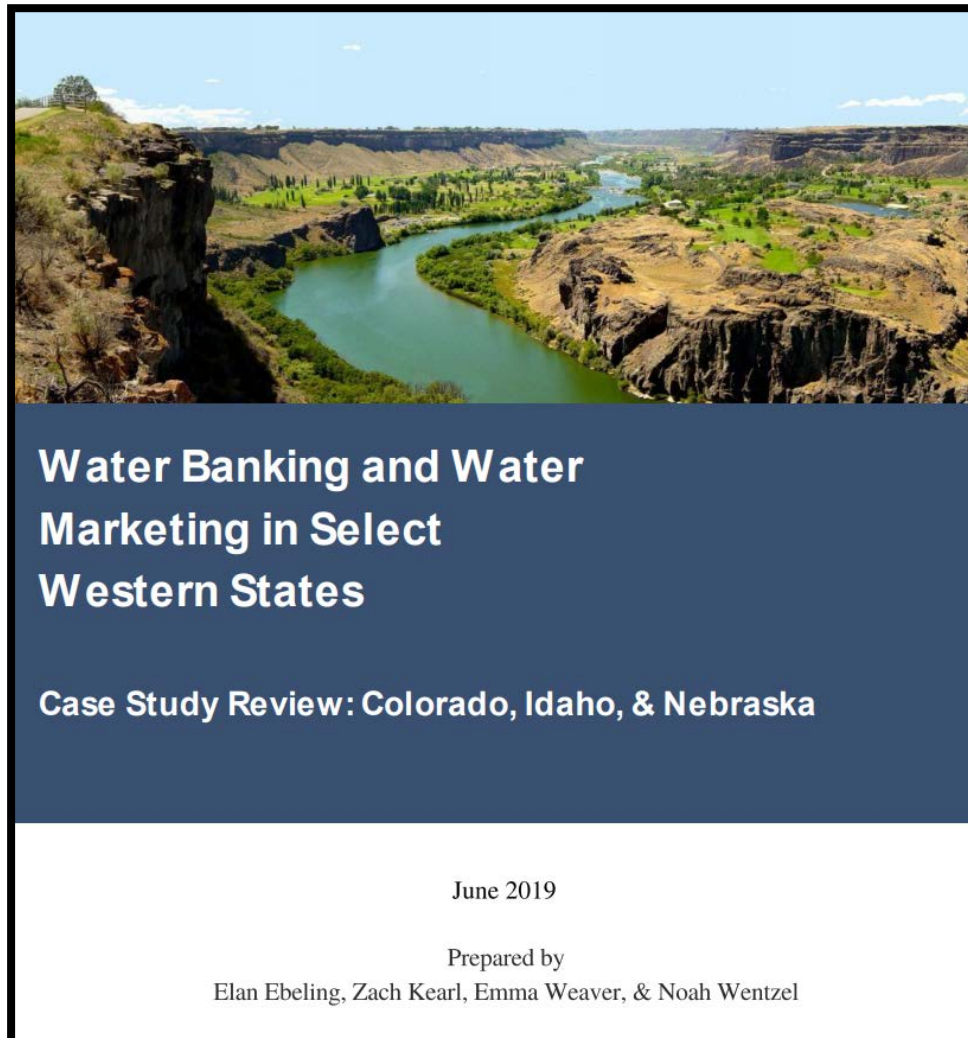
Process Stage	Timeframe
Project launch	Fall 2018
Evaluation of other states	Spring 2019
Problem identification and brainstorm of potential solutions	Now
Development of draft recommendations (internal)	Fall/Winter 2019
Vetting of potential recommendations	Spring 2020
Implementation	Summer 2020

Banking in Washington

- 22 banks with activity tracked by Ecology.
- Serve domestic, irrigation, commercial/industrial, and environmental needs.
- Use the Trust Water Rights Program (RCW 90.42) to issue new mitigated water rights.



Lessons from Other States



Report available at:

<http://teams/sites/WR/trustwatergroup/TWIG%20Documents/Water%20Banking%20and%20Water%20Marketing%20in%20Select%20Western%20States%20-%20Final.pdf>

Group Discussion


1. After 15+ years of experience water banking in Washington State, we all have learned a lot. How do you think we should adjust our focus on water banking? What improvements could we make to make it more effective?
2. Water banking has the potential for having negative externalities (or negative side effects).
 - What, if any, side effects worry you?
 - Have you seen or experienced any projects in which these side effects manifested?
 - What, if any, regulatory tools would you recommend to protect against these side effects?

Group Discussion (cont.)

3. There is a significant workload for Ecology associated with all stages of bank development. Requests for developing water banks sometimes come from areas that do not have the greatest need for banks to facilitate water reallocation.
 - a. Do you think it's the state's role to prioritize transfers for some banks over others? If so, what regulatory tools would accomplish this?
 - b. Do you think it's appropriate for Ecology to charge a fee to recover associated costs?
4. What else should Ecology consider when thinking about how to improve our statewide strategy regarding water banking?

Further Thoughts?

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