

## Water Bank Summary Proposal

The water bank proposal summary below is from a submitted grant application under considerations for the 2021-2023 Water Banking Pilot Grants funding opportunity. The summary is posted for a 30-day public comment period. You can provide your input to Ecology by using the comment form linked below. Please include the application number listed below.

---

**Application #:** WRWBP-2123-ChCoNR-00001

**Accepting comments:** 12/10/2021 — 1/10/2022

### **Summary:**

Chelan County has applied for a grant to expand their existing water bank by proposing to purchase three water rights, expand the types of uses the bank will serve, and expand the geographic area of the bank.

Chelan County currently operates a water bank under its new Water Code (chapter 13.30) established April 1, 2021, designed to comply with requirements to mitigate for impacts of new rural water use to instream flows and senior water right holders. This water bank is tied to the building permit process, collecting fees and issuing water mitigation certificates for rural domestic water supply consistent with water reserves established for the Wenatchee, Entiat, and Lake Chelan basins. This proposal will expand the existing water bank to include the entire geographic area of Chelan County and will serve multiple new purposes of use including irrigation, commercial, industrial and municipal. The expanded geographic area would include WRIAs 40A, 45, 46, and 47; other tributaries to the Columbia River; and the mainstem Columbia River. Chelan County seeks to meet emerging needs for local and efficient accessibility to water resource mitigation for future growth and economic development.

The County proposes to buy portions of 3 water rights with grant funds including: 78.8 acre-foot/year (afy) of a Lake Chelan Reserve water right; 26.6 afy of a water right in the Mission Creek subbasin; 2.25 afy of a water right in the Beaver Creek/Wenatchee basin. These water rights will serve additional rural uses in Lake Chelan, Mission Creek, and Beaver Creek basins which all have limited water reserves for growth. The County has agreed to permanently commit one-third of each water right instream to meet the funding program requirements set by the Legislature.