

## 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 this application number in your comment:

**Application #:** WRWBP-2123-OkanCD-00019

**Accepting comments:** 05/24/2023 — 6/22/2023

### Summary of Proposed Water Bank:

The Okanogan Conservation District has applied for a second grant from the Water Banking Pilot Grant fund, established in 2021, to purchase a water right in the Methow basin (WRIA 48) for water banking purposes and to benefit instream flow and ESA-listed species in upper Columbia River tributaries. The applicant seeks to preserve and protect local agricultural water rights from relinquishment and out-of-basin transfers, as well as provide an available mitigation source for establishing new seasonal irrigation uses within Okanogan County.

This proposal would use grant funds to acquire a 91.0 acre-foot/year water right from the Methow River. This water right has already gone through the water right change process and was transferred to the Trust Water Rights Program. The applicant has agreed to permanently dedicate one-third of the water right to instream use to meet the funding requirements set by the Legislature. The remaining two-thirds of the water right would be added to the Okanogan County Water Bank being established under the applicant's first grant awarded under this funding opportunity ([see summary of first application](#)). The objective of this grant is to expand the bank with a mainstem water right to be used to serve as mitigation for new seasonal irrigation uses from the Methow River.

- [Online Comment Form](#)

Read more about [Water Banking Pilot Grants](#).