



BUCK HEIM

DESCHUTES WATER ALLIANCE

WATER BANK

BALANCING WATER DEMAND
IN THE DESCHUTES BASIN

WATER IS KEY Water is the backbone of the economy, the environment, agriculture and recreation. The Deschutes Water Bank promotes and values the multiple uses and needs for water.

The Power of Partnerships

Cooperation and understanding of our common water needs are the hallmarks of the Deschutes Water Alliance. Stakeholders invested in water management in the Deschutes Basin have come together to form the Deschutes Water Alliance (DWA).

A number of factors are at work that are making a lasting and positive difference in the Deschutes Basin:

- 1 THE GROUNDWATER MITIGATION PROGRAM** will protect existing water rights, allow for new groundwater uses and create new opportunities for meeting in-stream flow targets throughout the Deschutes Basin.
- 2 IRRIGATORS UNDERSTAND POTENTIAL LIABILITIES** associated with the Clean Water Act and Endangered Species Act and are motivated to prevent conflict and litigation.
- 3 SIGNIFICANT MITIGATION AND RESTORATION** capital exists to invest in meeting in-stream flow targets, mitigation needs and irrigation efficiency projects.

What is the DWA Water Bank?

THE DWA WATER BANK WAS ESTABLISHED TO ASSURE adequate water supplies for agriculture while making water available for Central Oregon cities and rivers at the same time. The current members of the DWA Bank are the Deschutes River Conservancy, Central Oregon Irrigation District, Swalley Irrigation District, City of Bend, City of Redmond, and Avion Water Company. The bank operates in a voluntary, market-based manner using existing Oregon water law statutes under a cooperative agreement.

“Cooperative efforts abound to **protect and restore** the environment that makes the Deschutes Basin such an attraction to those who live in it.”

~ DESCHUTES WATER ALLIANCE ~



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Goals of the DWA Water Bank

The primary objective of the DWA Water Bank is to provide an easily navigated system to identify and meet the new water needs of qualified buyers. The DWA Water Bank operates within the existing Oregon water law framework and is one place where water users can find water for all of the following uses:

1 PERMANENT AND TEMPORARY* MITIGATION CREDITS FOR:

- New municipal and quasi municipal uses
- Agricultural uses that require mitigation

2 INSTREAM FLOW RESTORATION THROUGH:

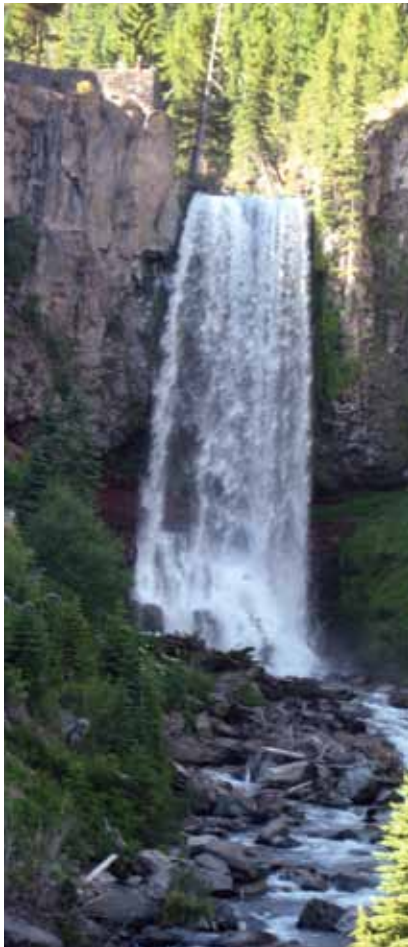
- Temporary instream leasing
- Permanent instream transfers

*The Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC) administers and staffs the DWA Water Bank as well as a separate Groundwater Mitigation Bank where you can obtain temporary mitigation credits through the Instream Leasing Program. For more information about these options, please visit: www.deschutesriver.org.



BEA ARMSTRONG

TOWN AND COUNTRY Agriculture accounts for 90% of Deschutes Basin water use. Municipal and industrial water usage is approximately 5%.



KENLEY STONE

TUMALO FALLS The Falls are located 10 miles west of Bend in the Upper Deschutes Watershed.

FAQS:

DWA WATER BANK FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- ? **How does the DWA Water Bank Work?** The DWA Water Bank matches the needs of buyers and sellers through regular allocations of water. The DWA Water Bank assesses the quantity and timing of water needed by prospective buyers. Eligible buyers may then purchase either temporary** or permanent mitigation credits.
- ? **What does the DWA Water Bank offer?** The DWA Water Bank offers water to meet instream flow goals as well as to mitigation buyers. Both temporary and permanent mitigation credits may be obtained through the Bank. Water is allocated to buyers according to their needs as evidenced by their groundwater permit and associated mitigation obligation.
- ? **Do participants in the DWA Water Bank have to go through the Oregon Water Resources Department?** All potential customers of the DWA Water Bank have to submit a groundwater application to the Oregon Water Resources Department.
- ? **How long will it take to get my water?** Buyers can acquire temporary credits readily. Permanent credits may be provided in increments or all at one time.
- ? **Who operates the DWA Water Bank?** The Deschutes River Conservancy administers and staffs the DWA Water Bank. For more information, contact Zachary Tillman at 541.382.4077 ext. 21 or zach@deschutesriver.org.

** See *Goals of the DWA Water Bank* above.

AGRICULTURE Approximately 240,000 acres of land are irrigated in Central Oregon. The main crops harvested are hay, alfalfa, and seed crops.



KENLEY STONE

DWA WATER BANK BENEFITS

- 1 **PROVIDES** a cost effective, timely, voluntary and transparent marketplace for water
- 2 **RESPECTS** prior appropriation and private property rights
- 3 **ENLISTS** “suppliers”, defined as those irrigation districts that are allowing water to exit, through payment of irrigation district assessment fees
- 4 **CREATES** a predictable method of obtaining mitigation credits that provides certainty for secure financing, permitting and other related processes
- 5 **ENHANCES** current Deschutes Basin land use goals by protecting agriculture and irrigation districts from water speculation
- 6 **RECOGNIZES** instream needs on equal footing with other beneficial uses of water
- 7 **HELPS** local governments address potential needs under the Endangered Species Act and Clean Water Act
- 8 **CREATES** a forum for ongoing comprehensive water planning for Deschutes Basin counties and cities and aligns water with the 20 year planning goals of the region
- 9 **ALLOWS** voluntary participation of both public and private entities, all paying the same price, and eliminates water speculation and hoarding
- 10 **CREATES** transparent, defensible water supply findings for city and county land use applications, preventing costly litigation and confusion over water availability
- 11 **CONTINUES** Deschutes Basin tradition of innovative, collaborative water management solutions



KATE FITZPATRICK

DESCHUTES WATER ALLIANCE

WATER BANK

To learn more about the DWA Water Bank, please contact:

Zachary Tillman
DWA Bank Manager

Deschutes River Conservancy
P.O. Box 1560
Bend, Oregon 97709

541.382.4077 ext. 21
zach@deschutesriver.org
www.deschutesriver.org

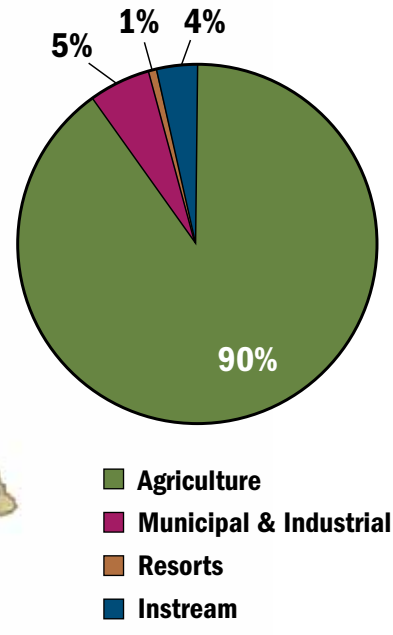
MEETING THE NEEDS OF FISH, FARMERS & CITIES

DESCHUTES WATER ALLIANCE



The darkened green section of the map denotes the Deschutes Basin Groundwater Study Area where mitigation is required.

CURRENT DISTRIBUTION OF WATER



What is the Deschutes Water Alliance?

The Deschutes Water Alliance (DWA) was formed in 2004 by the Deschutes Basin Board of Control (DBBC), The Confederated Tribes of Warm Springs, the Deschutes River Conservancy (DRC), and the Central Oregon Cities Organization (COCO) to plan for the future water management of the Deschutes River Basin.

What is the vision of the Deschutes Water Alliance?

The DWA believes that it is possible to simultaneously meet new and existing demands for water in the Deschutes Basin whether they are for agriculture, cities, or rivers.

Goals of the DWA:

- 1 IMPROVE STREAMFLOWS and water quality in the Deschutes Basin for the benefit of fish, wildlife and people.
- 2 SECURE AND MAINTAIN a reliable and affordable supply of water to sustain agriculture.
- 3 SECURE A SAFE, affordable and high quality water supply for urban communities.

Funding for this brochure was made possible by the 2008 Oregon Water Supply and Initiative Grant from the Oregon Water Resources Department.

Additional Resources: Flow Restoration: http://www.oregon.gov/OWRD/mgmt_instream.shtml
Deschutes Mitigation: http://www.wrd.state.or.us/OWRD/Deschutes_five_year_eval.shtml