

# Key Policy Questions Related to Implementing the Drought Relief Program

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# Seeking your feedback

Today we have an important question:

- When we are providing assistance, how should we structure that assistance?
  - ❖ To ensure fairness and equity
  - ❖ To provide appropriate assistance to those in need



# Key questions

- Should there be a cost-share requirement for recipients?
- If so what percentage should the cost share be?



# What will be the need?

- Budget built based on 2005, with some increase for inflation
- Example: Learned that cost of water is higher than expected



# What will be the need? (2)

In 2005, state provided:

- \$3.25 M for irrigation projects
- \$2.77 M for municipal water suppliers
- \$1.3 M for Yakima basin emergency well mitigation
- \$1.0 M to WDFW for salmon and trout protection
- \$1.5 M for temporary staffing
- \$300,000 for leasing water rights in Yakima and Walla Walla basins



# What have we requested?

Grants to Municipalities	\$ 2,000,000 *
Water Leasing – Lower level response	\$ 2,000,000
Water Leasing & Acquisition - Higher level drought response	\$ 4,000,000
Staffing: compliance, education and monitoring	\$ 400,000
WDFW	\$ 1,200,000
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$ 9,600,000</b>

\* NOTE: Costs have been rounded in this slide



# Focus on the Yakima

<b>Year</b>	<b>Leasing water for irrigation districts</b>	<b>Cost of leasing water for districts</b>	<b>Mitigation for emergency wells</b>
2005	27,701 ac-ft (cost \$137/ac-ft)	\$ 3,800,000*	Cost: \$1,300,000**
2015	5000 ac-ft (cost \$275/ac-ft)	\$ 1,375,000	11,557 acres Cost: \$2,224,750

\*Ecology agreed to 50 percent cost-share for irrigation district leases in 2005

\*\*No cost share requirement for emergency well mitigation in 2005

# Funding need: focus on Yakima

	<b>0 percent cost share</b>	<b>25 percent cost share</b>	<b>50 percent cost share</b>	<b>75 percent cost share</b>
<b>Leasing water for irrigation districts</b>	\$ 1,375,000	\$ 1,031,250	\$ 687,500	\$ 343,750
<b>Mitigation for emergency wells</b>	\$ 2,224,700	\$ 1,668,525	\$ 1,123,500	\$ 556,175
<b>Total State Costs</b>	\$ 3,599,700	\$ 2,699,770	\$ 1,799,850	\$ 899,925

# Funding assistance: Entire state

	0 percent cost share	25 percent cost share	50 percent cost share	75 percent cost share
<b>Yakima Basin</b>	\$ 3,599,700	\$ 2,669,770	\$ 1,799,850	\$ 899,925
<b>Public Water Systems</b>	\$ 2,000,000	\$ 1,500,000	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 500,000
<b>Assistance to irrigators outside of Yakima basin</b>	\$ 1,000,000	\$ 750,000	\$ 500,000	\$ 250,000
<b>Total State Commitment*</b>	\$ 6,599,700	\$ 4,919,770	\$ 3,299,850	\$ 1,649,925

\*Note: Does not include funding to WDFW, staffing, funding for stream flow protection

# Key questions

- Should there be a cost share requirement for recipients?
  - ❖ In 2005, we required 50 percent cost share for irrigation district water leases
  - ❖ In 2005, we did not require cost share for public water systems
  - ❖ In 2005, we did not require cost share for drought wells mitigation





Thank you