



Water Markets

More information available at: <http://www.co.chelan.wa.us/natural-resources/>

PROJECT DESCRIPTION

There are 56 agricultural water users in the Icicle and Wenatchee basins that are curtailed in water short years. Under this project, the IWG would create a voluntary Icicle Water Market to improve agricultural reliability for these water users.

The Icicle Water Market would allow water to be moved to existing interruptible agricultural farms during water short years. The Icicle Water Market would be seeded through a purchase of 1,000 acre-feet of senior irrigation water rights.

The estimated project cost is \$3 million, or \$3,000/acre-foot.

PROJECT BENEFITS

- Improve agricultural water reliability

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Improves agricultural reliability

POTENTIAL ISSUES/DATA GAPS

- Determine water market business model and rules

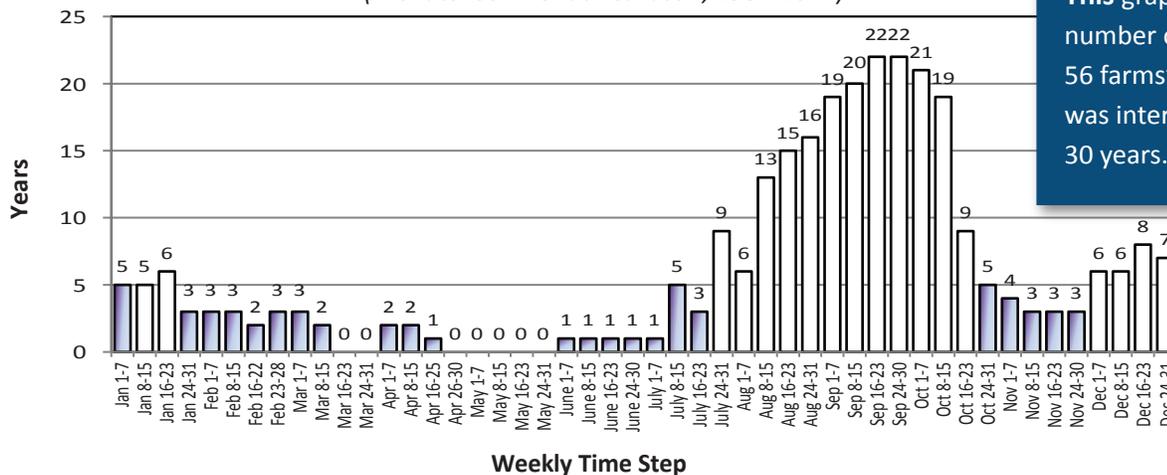
TIMELINE TO IMPLEMENT

2016	Water Market Feasibility Study
2016-2017	Environmental Review
2017	Project Implementation

Icicle and Wenatchee Basin Interruptible Water Users:

- 56 interruptible water users
- 519 acres of irrigation
- 3,430 cfs
- 12,850 acre-feet

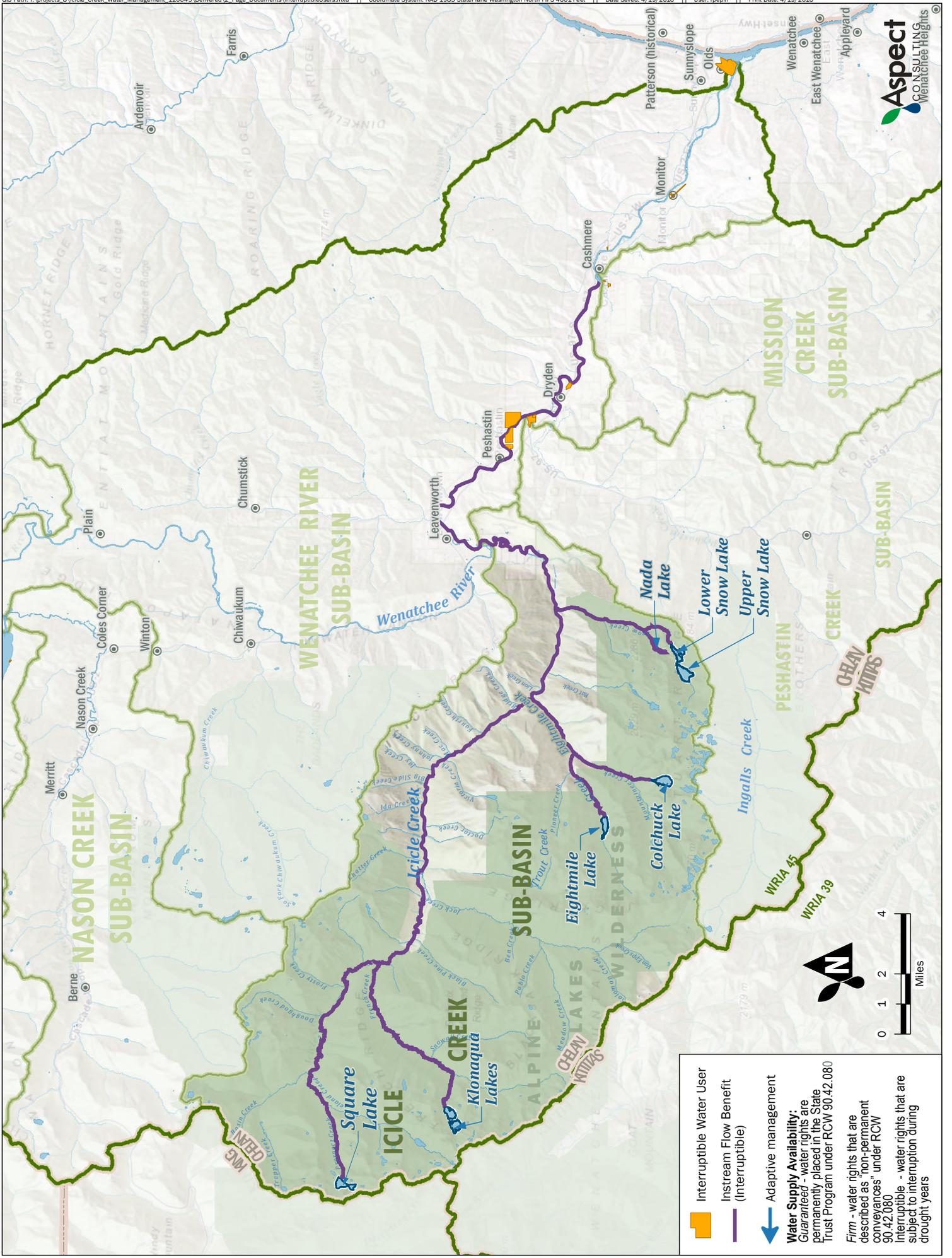
Total Interruptible Years vs. Instream Flow Rule
(Wenatchee River at Peshastin, 1984-2014)



This graph represents the number of years that the 56 farms' water supply was interrupted in the last 30 years.

EXISTING AND ONGOING STUDIES

- 2012 Report to the Legislature: Water Banking in Washington State, 2012, Department of Ecology
- Analysis of Water Banks in the Western States, 2004, Department of Ecology and West Water Research



Interruptible Water User

- Instream Flow Benefit (Interruptible)
- Adaptive management

Water Supply Availability:
 Guaranteed - water rights are permanently placed in the State Trust Program under RCW 90.42.080
 Firm - water rights that are described as "non-permanent conveyances" under RCW 90.42.080
 Interruptible - water rights that are subject to interruption during drought years

