

Background on Transfers

- What is a water transfer?
 - Reallocation of water among water users
- Why transfer water?
 - Flexibility of water use in California

Agencies Approving Transfers

- U.S. Bureau of Reclamation
 - Central Valley Project (CVP)
- Department of Water Resources
 - State Water Project (SWP)
- State Water Resources Control Board
 - Post-1914 water rights

Overview of Transfers

- Seller must either:
 - Release water from reservoir storage, or
 - forego direct diversion of water
- Where does water go?
 - Northern area of state to central/southern areas
 - Other regions of the state
- How much is transferred?
 - 2013: 277,283 acre-ft processed

Reallocation vs Transfer

- Reallocation within a district do not require State Board approval unless:
 - Change point of diversion, purpose or place of use.
- Transfer needed:
 - Water to be used by other user outside service area.

Pre-1914 Water Right Transfers

- Can change point of diversion purpose or place of use
- Not required to petition State Water Board
- May chose to petition for instream flow dedication.

Types of Water Transfers

- Surface water transfer
 - Stored water
 - Direct diversion water
- Groundwater transfer
 - Use of groundwater in lieu of surface water
 - Banked groundwater
 - Direct transfer
- Imported water transfer