Obtaining and Financing New Water Rights in a Bucket-for-Bucket Era

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The “easy” water is gone
Finding “new” water

- Storage
- Transfers
- Mitigation

January water availability for storage

Groundwater areas of concern
Mitigation in Oregon

OREGON WATER RESOURCES DEPARTMENT
GROUNDWATER RESTRICTED AREAS

DESchutes Basin

- Instream water rights
- State Scenic Waterways
- USGS study area
OAR Chapter 690, Division 33
Mitigation for the Upper Columbia River

- Additional public interest standards relating to sensitive, threatened and endangered fish species
- Affects eight basins
Obtaining water rights can be:
- Complex
- Time-consuming
- Expensive
What can be done to help?

- Establish clear processes and standards
- Consider tools to facilitate transactions
- Continue OWRD role as partner
Questions?