Secondary Water Metering

Future implications for the state and local regions

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About Secondary Water

• Raw, untreated water, delivered for irrigation: agricultural & municipal
• Like: Quality matches its purpose ("one water")
• Don’t Like: Unmetered
Lawn with Metered water.
Lawn with UNmetered water.
Metering has significant water savings potential!

- WBWCD saved on average 22% per connection, and up to 40% with many typical customers via metering and informational reports.
- Similar water use reductions realized in other communities, achieved with metering and price signal (Saratoga springs, Spanish fork, WaterPro)
- Anecdotal evidence shows 2-3 times as much water was being used as needed in some cases
How much water are we talking about?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>DWRe 2015 Draft Use (AF)</th>
<th>Recommended Baseline Water Use (AF)</th>
<th>Absolute Difference</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Potable</td>
<td>557,083</td>
<td>557,083</td>
<td>0.0%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Secondary</td>
<td>181,647</td>
<td>255,774</td>
<td>40.8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>738,730</td>
<td>812,857</td>
<td>10.0%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
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Statewide Implications

• Improved water use data → improved analyses & projections
  • Statewide and locally

• Implications for investments made in water development & management and the execution of 2017 “Recommended State Water Strategy.”
Great Salt Lake Implications

• Significant secondary water use in the region surrounding GSL
• Secondary (and culinary) water sources from Weber & Ogden Rivers
• Bear River next source being looked to
Local Implications

Some Benefits:
• Significant water savings if paired with effective education/rates
• Extend the life of utility water supply and infrastructure (e.g. Spanish Fork)
• Customers become more educated & have more control

Some Challenges:
• Other providers may find the cost very burdensome in the short term, maybe over the long term
• Requires financing, and probably rate changes
What to do?

WRA’s Research:

• **Phase 1** Program selection: Interview-based research to focus on water conservation programs that:
  • Could save a lot of water;
  • Could be rapidly scaled;
  • Enjoyed a high degree of support from utilities & conservation professionals.

• **Phase 2** (implementation research): What are the barriers to metering and how can we accelerate it?
Accelerating metering: The Lead User Method

• 11 Lead Users,
• January 2018
• 1 day workshop
• “How can we accelerate the Implementation of Metering?”
Address the Primary Barriers to Metering:

1) Customer Resistance

2) Costs & Financing
Costs & Financing

• $1,110 - $1,800 per meter,
• Yet rates for secondary water are usually very low
• State wide implementation estimate: $241 million
Lead User Solutions to Accelerate Metering

3 Pronged Pathway:
1. Legislation
2. Public Education Campaign
3. Forum for Secondary Water Providers


The Future of Secondary Water Metering

• Recent legislative effort (SB 204) to require metering failed (try, try again), now onto Legislative interim committee
• Public Education Campaign champion
• Forum for secondary providers champion
• Natural increase in metering
  • Population growth
  • Limited or very expensive supply options