ACTIVE WATER RESOURCE MANAGEMENT:

PARIAH OR BLUEPRINT FOR WESTERN WATER MANAGEMENT?

VIRTUAL GEOGRAPHY COLLOQUIUM

MICHAEL PEASE, Central Washington University Chair, Department of Geography Director, Public Policy Program

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The western United States is plagued with chronic water shortages, frequent drought, and unclear water rights. Attempts to deal with shortages are a complicated web of federal, state, and local management. Many river basins suffer from imperfect data about water ownership and priority, constraining water managers during periods of water scarcity. The fallout from inadequate water planning is conflated by attributes of water rights being undefined. Considerable research has focused on watershed-level planning. Additional focus is needed on intergenerational planning. Daly referred to such

long-range planning as "moral growth," and it could be considered a cornerstone of sustainable water use. It could also be considered a "third rail" of multi-scalar resource management.



