

Submitter: Nancy Nichols

On Behalf Of:

Committee: House Committee On Agriculture, Land Use, Natural
Resources, and Water

Measure, Appointment or Topic: HB3501

Water is a public resource. Transfers of water rights need to be examined to make sure they are not damaging the public interest. I am aware of senior water rights that are not used. Transferring rights that should have been cancelled for non-use can seriously damage salmon habitat and the water rights of people who have been using them in accordance with the law. Dramatically increasing the cost to appeal will mean that the state does not even get the the information it needs to fairly decide if the transfer is water use neutral.